

***NEW FIELD AND MODELING RESULTS  
FROM A SIMULATED WASTE PIT  
USING THE ENHANCED VERY EARLY  
TIME ELECTROMAGNETIC (VETEM)  
PROTOTYPE SYSTEM***

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presented at

SAGEEP'99, Oakland, CA, March 14-18, 1999

# *Outline*

- Why VETEM ?
- What's VETEM ?
- What's new in VETEM ?
- The Cold Test Pit & VETEM.
- Modeling for VETEM.
- Quo Vadis VETEM ?
- Conclusions and Acknowledgements.

## *Why VETEM ?*

- Better penetration than GPR through conductive earth -- typical of clay caps over waste pits.
- Better resolution in first 5 meters than time-domain EM systems.

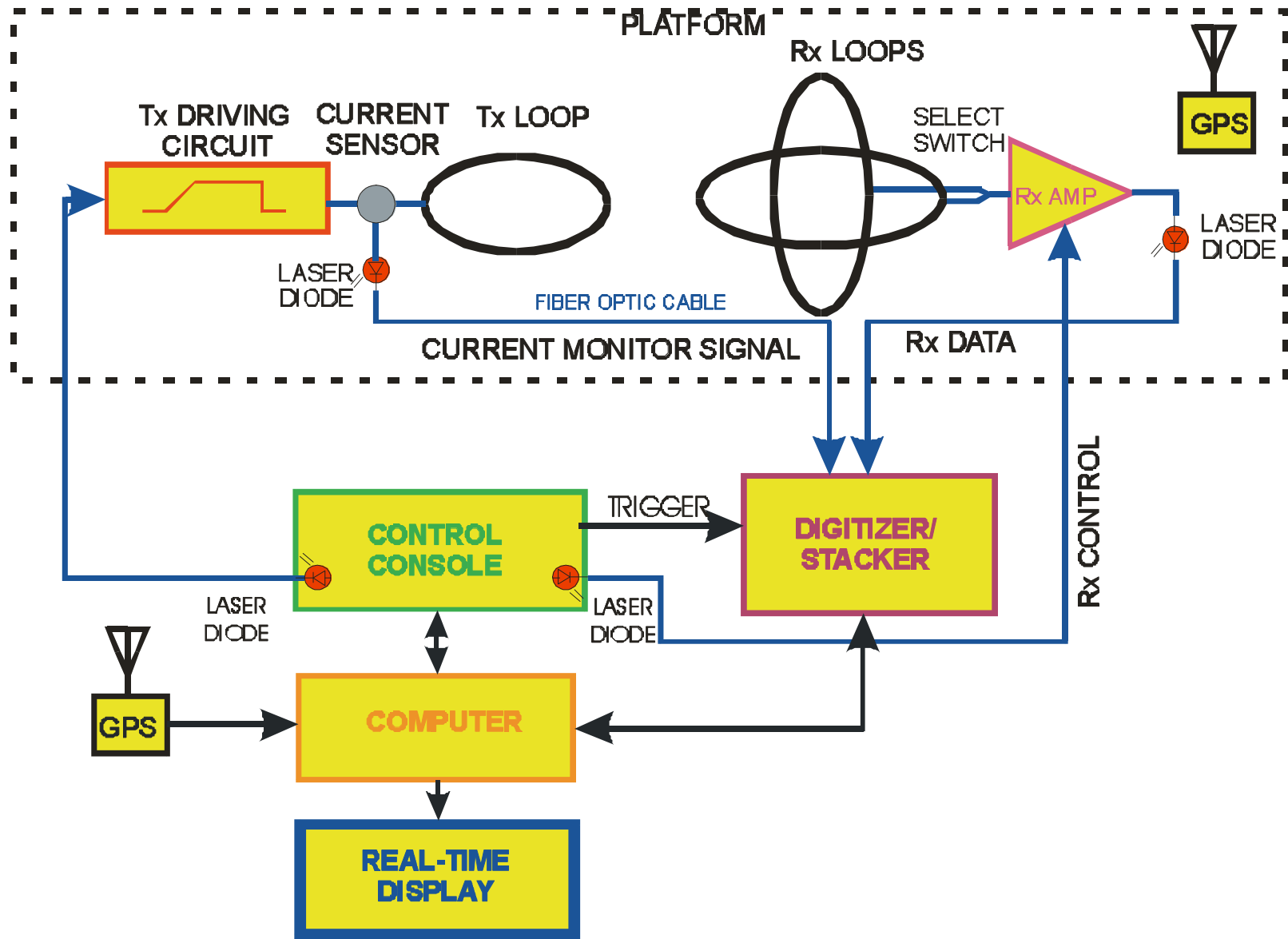
## *What's VETEM ?*

- A time-domain EM system with fast Tx turn-off (or can function as low freq. GPR)
- Typically record entire waveform.
- Real-time digitizing, stacking & display
- Continuous profiling while moving
- Flexible
  - Can use electric field dipoles
  - Can use magnetic field loops

# *Comments on System Block Diagram*

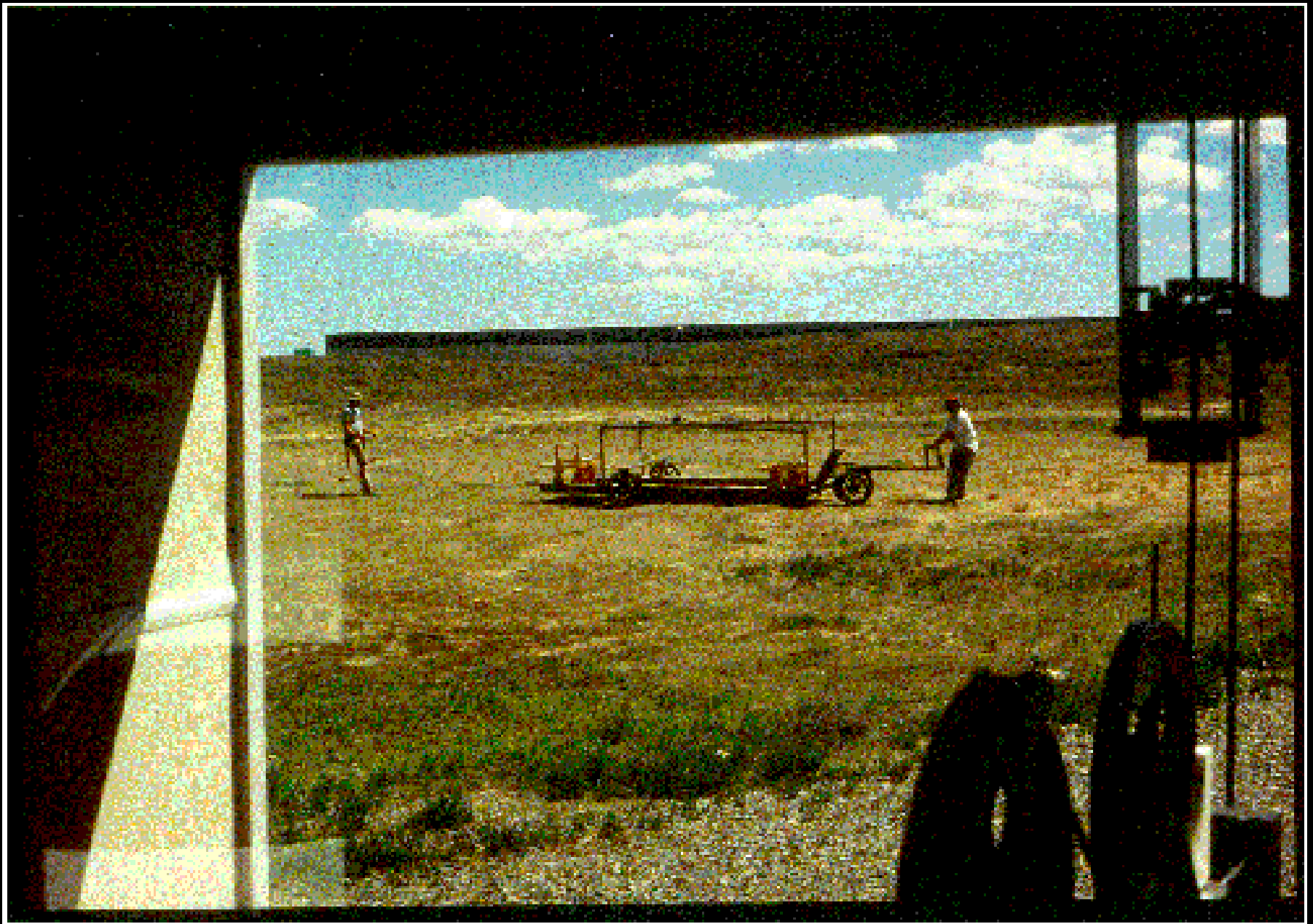
- Everything inside dotted box is on remote cart and is battery powered.
- All data and control lines to/from cart are fiber-optic to avoid unwanted EM coupling.
- Real-time digitizer/stacker is unique in system of this type. No sampling is done prior to digitizing. Allows capture and averaging of every waveform.
- Advantage is fast signal-to-noise improvement through waveform averaging.
- Typical operating speed is 10 to 25 cm/s (20 to 50 ft/min).
- Cart currently towed with borehole radar winch. Will develop all-terrain vehicle towed version.

# VETEM SYSTEM BLOCK DIAGRAM



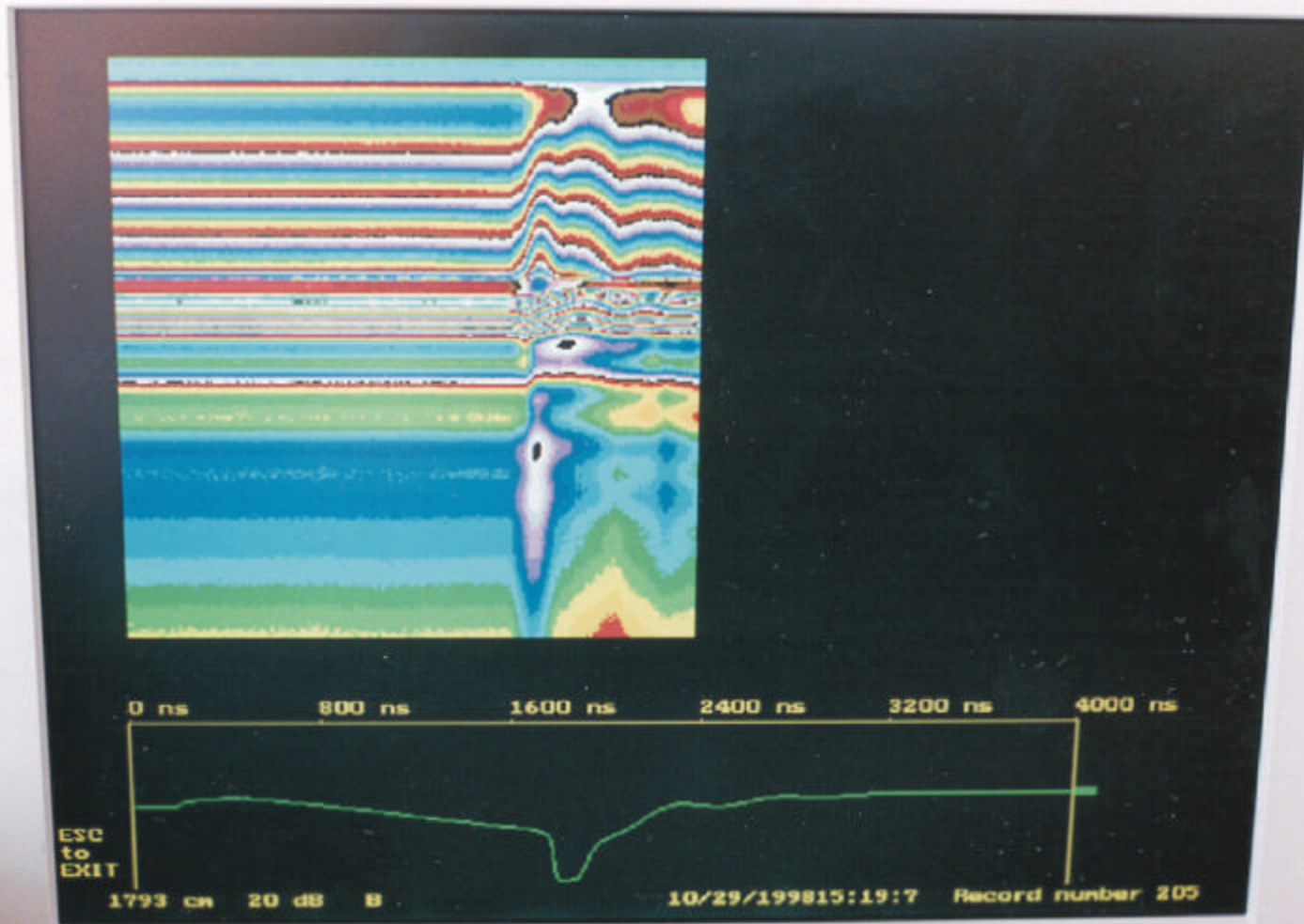
# *Borehole Radar Drawworks*







# Real-Time Data Display



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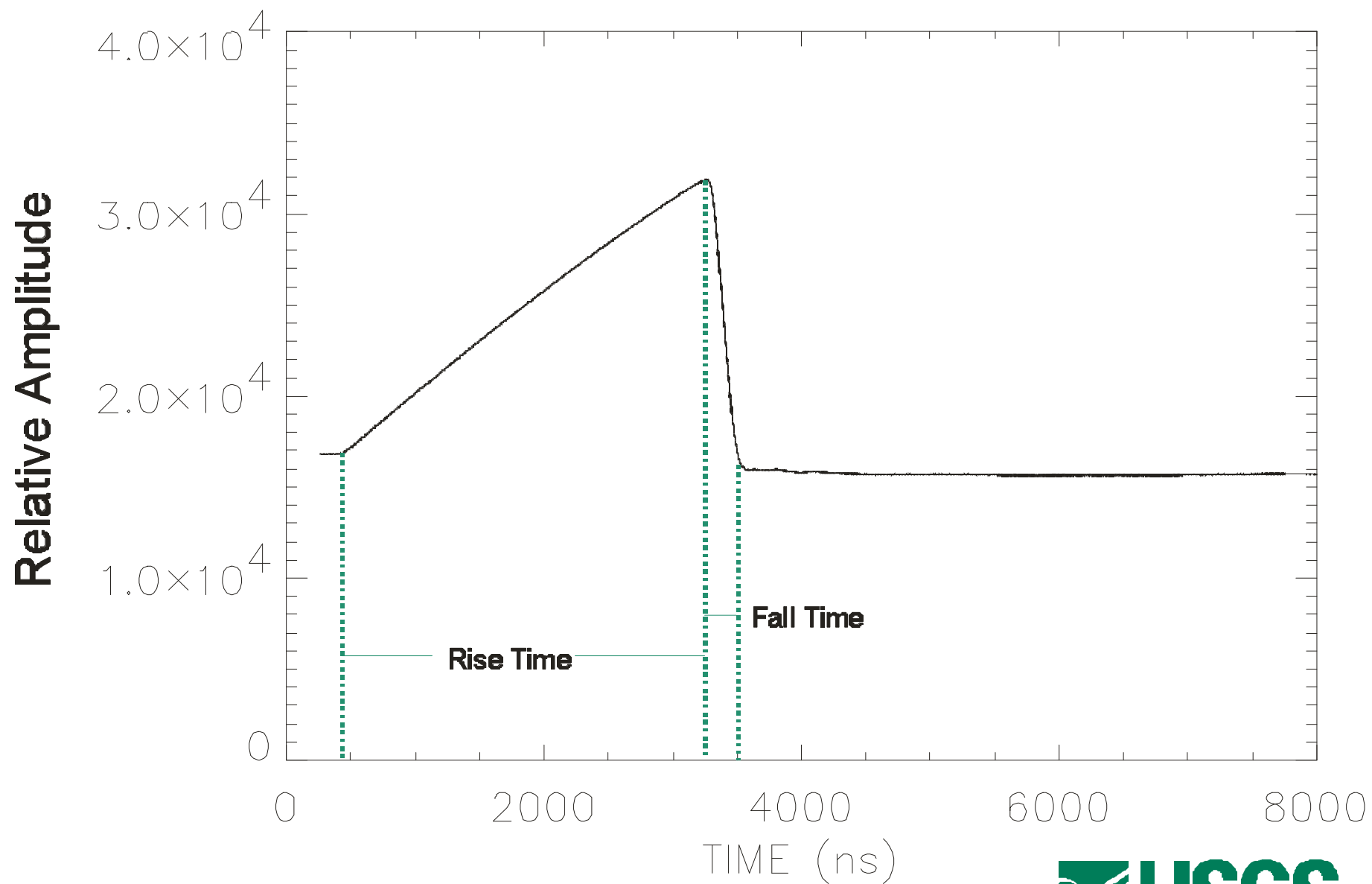
## *What's new in VETEM ?*

- Two new transmitters - faster and slower
- 30 times greater Tx current
- 10 times larger area loop antennas
- Overlapped antenna configuration
- New cart for greater antenna spacing
- GPS receivers
- New data processing and visualization
- New 3-D forward model

## *Higher current output transmitter*

- Ramps current up approximately linearly at about 6 Amperes/microsecond.
- Can drive 30 Amperes peak current into new Tx antennas.
- Pulse width controlled by software.
- 10 kHz repetition rate.
- Turn-off ramp about 60 Amps/microsecond.

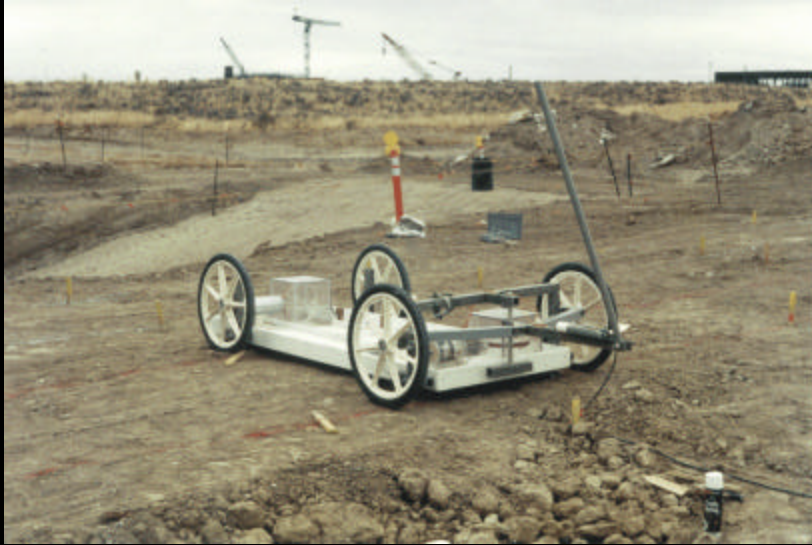
# Transmitted Waveform



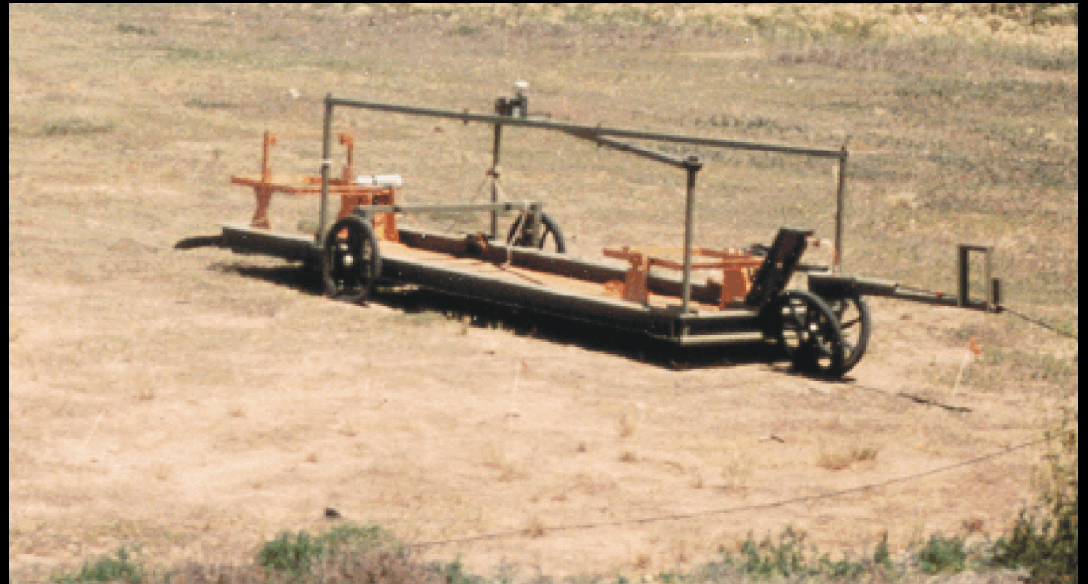
# *Comments on carts and antennas*

- The original cart allowed antenna spacing to 2 meters maximum. Metal almost totally eliminated in both carts.
- New cart up to 4 m antenna spacing for greater depth.
- New cart more rigid and has 3-point suspension to avoid antenna misalignment due to twisting of cart.
- Original loop antennas still available and very good for shallow applications, but newer antennas have greater area and therefore greater signal levels for deeper applications.
- Electric field antennas under development. These should prove superior for shallow response to dielectric permittivity changes (e.g. liquid spills).

*Original Cart*



*New Cart*

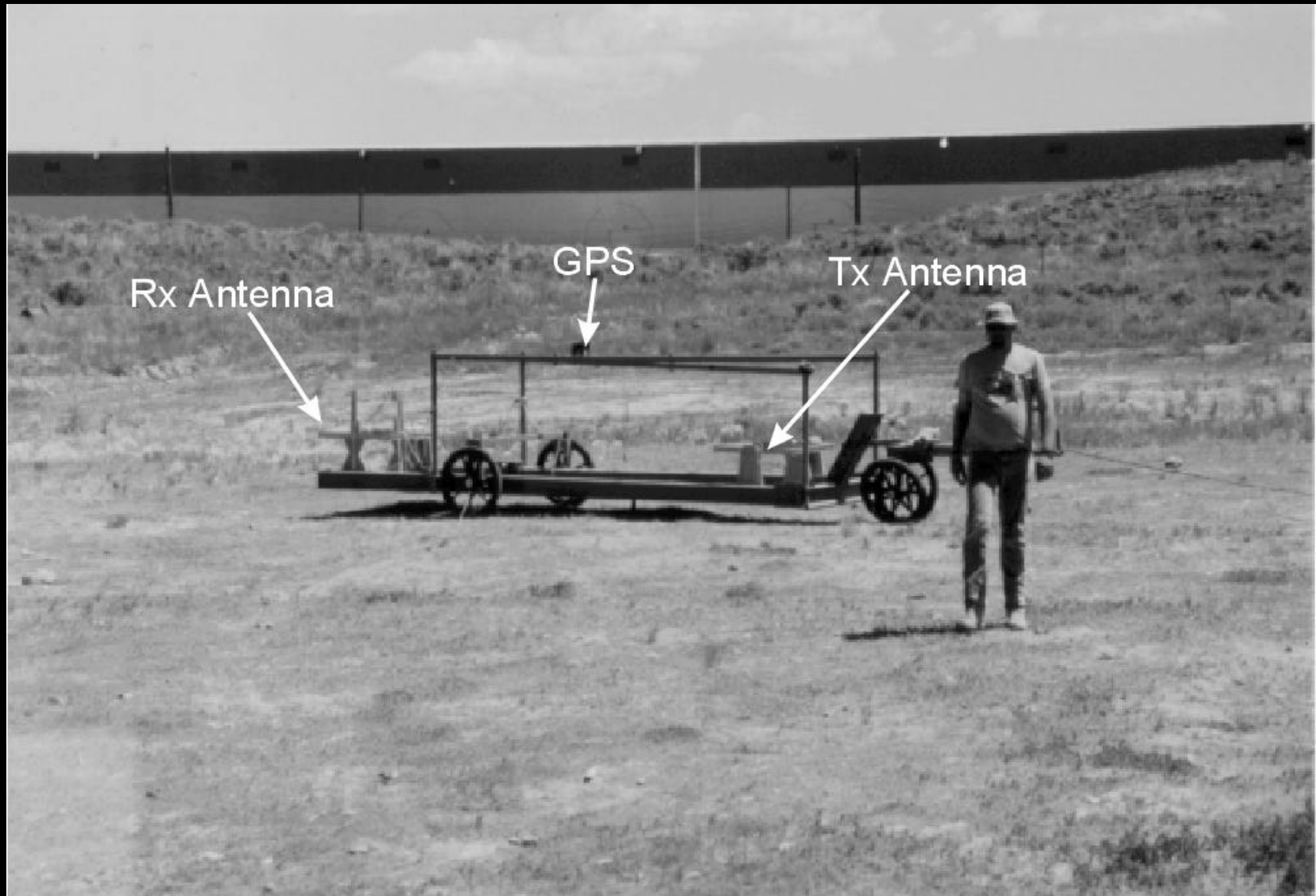




# *Objectives for different antenna configurations*

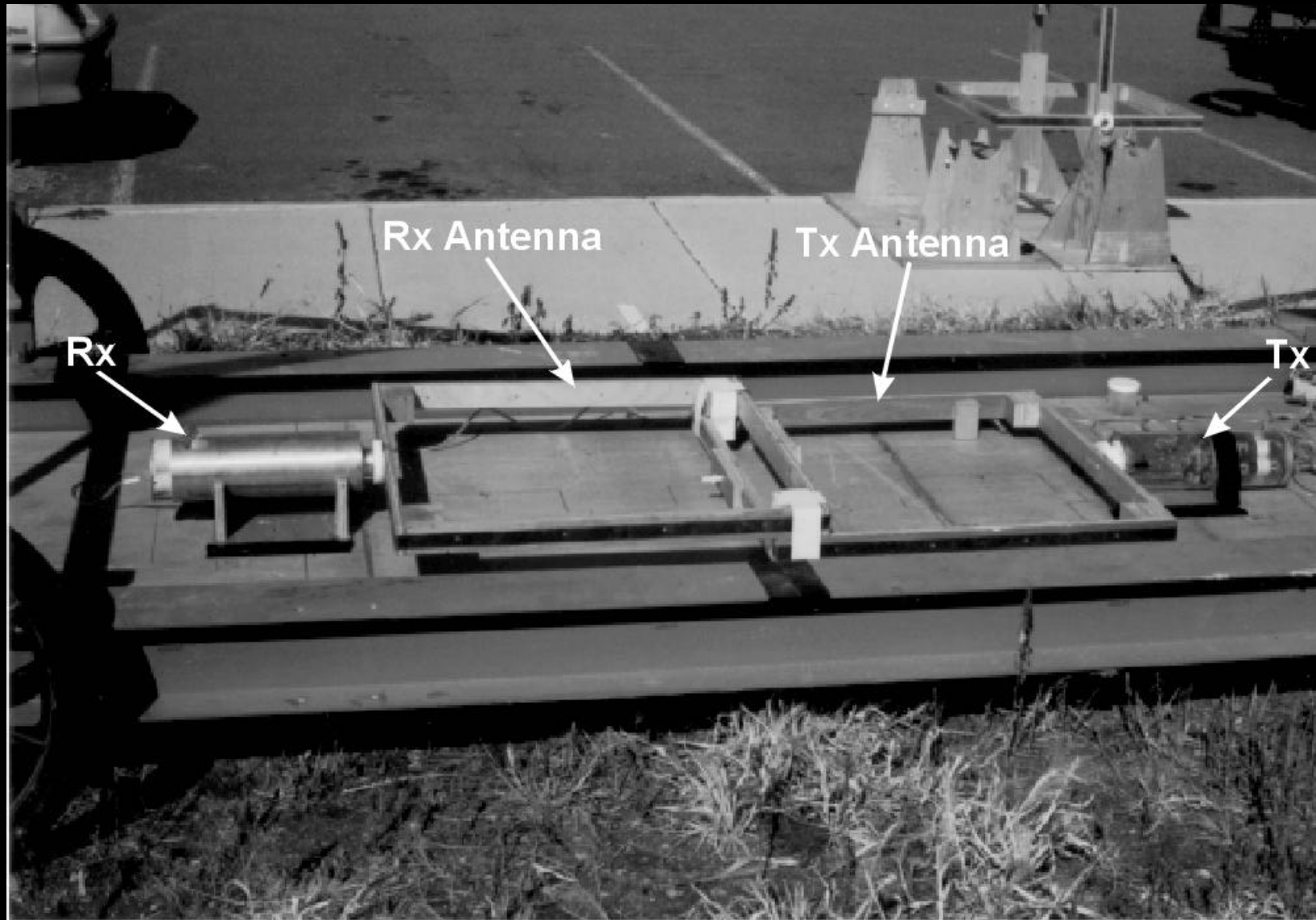
- Perpendicular loop antennas null the response to the primary field -- the field that the transmitting antenna would produce in free space. This configuration retains response to earth electrical properties.
- Overlapped loop antennas can approximately null both the primary field and local average earth response by adjusting the Rx and Tx antenna overlap. This maximizes the system response to EM changes due to buried objects or changes in earth parameters. This procedure minimizes the dynamic range requirement on the receiver. Very small changes in antenna overlap cause large changes in signal. Must be readjusted for local site earth conductivity.
- Coplanar loop antennas at short spacing saturate receiver due to the maximally coupled primary field. Requires extremely high dynamic range in receiver or giving up early time part of waveform.
- We are investigating gradiometer configurations.

# *Large antennas at 4 m spacing*





# *Overlapped Antennas*



# *The Cold Test Pit at INEEL*



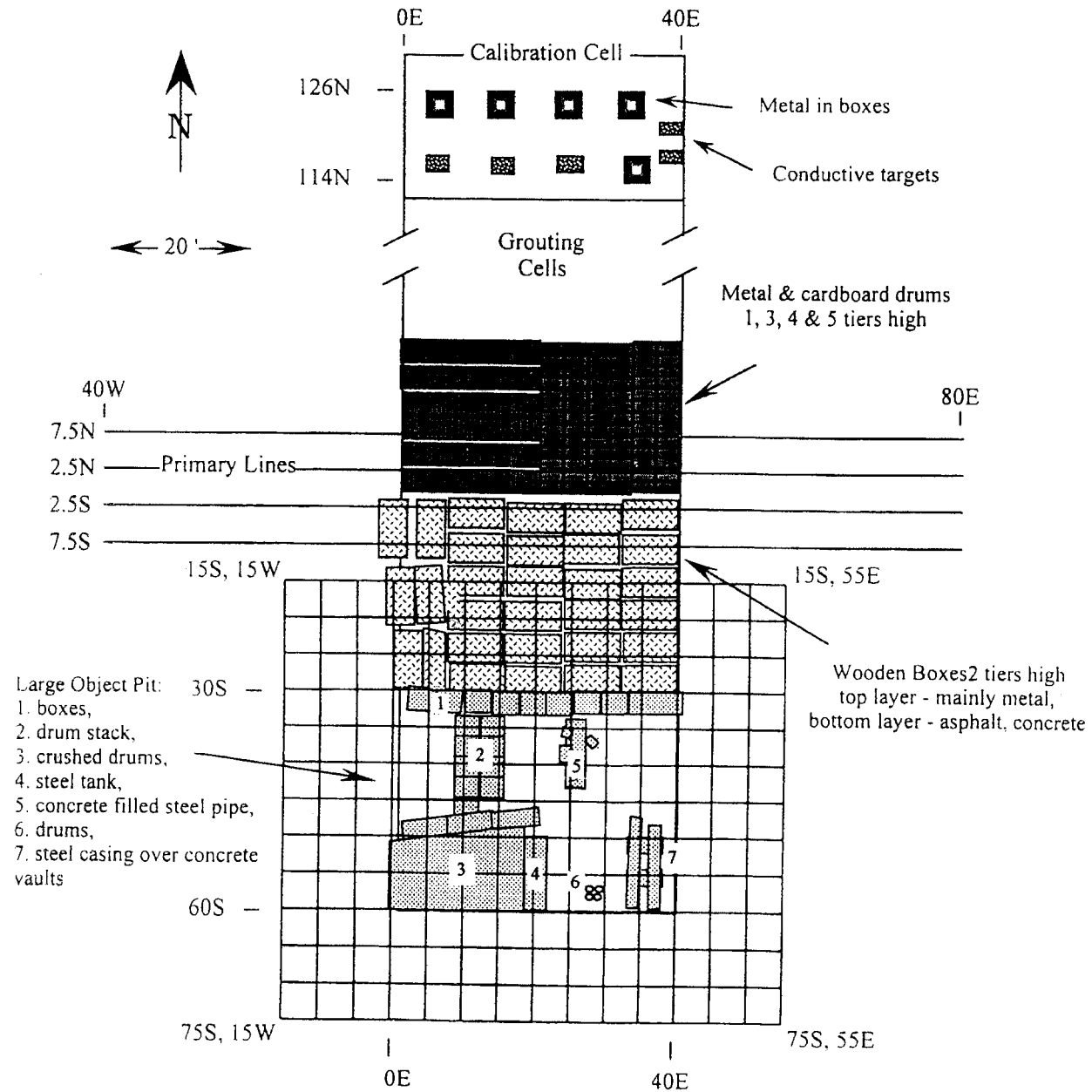
## *Cold Test Pit Objectives*

- “Cold” here means non-radioactive.
- In all other respects the CTP is intended to simulate physical characteristics typical of actual waste pits at the Idaho National Environmental and Engineering Laboratory.
- Several different portions of the CTP.
- We show results from the Large Object Pit and Calibration Cell portions of the CTP.





# INEEL COLD TEST PIT (CTP)



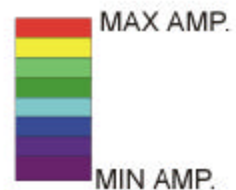
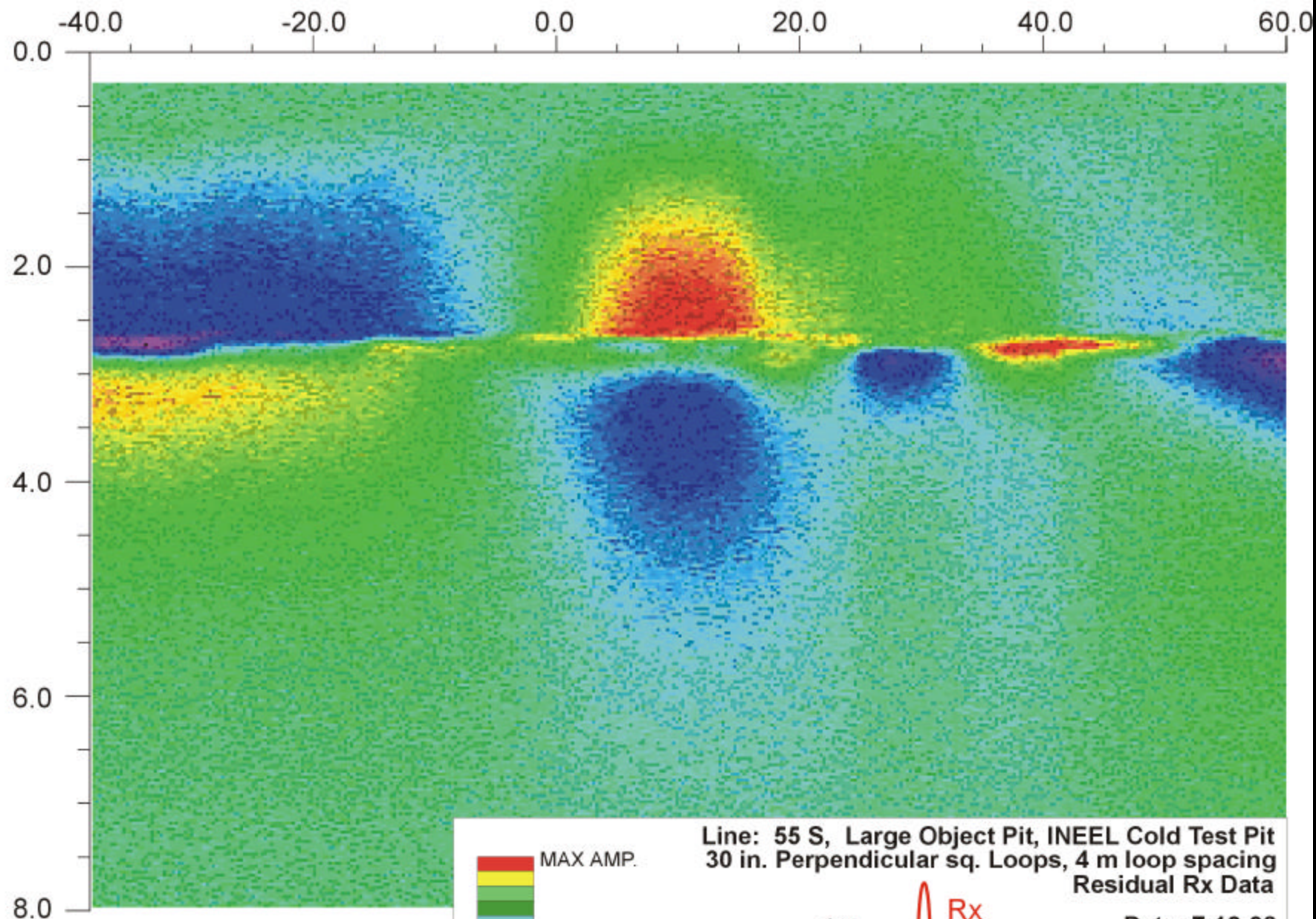
## *Line 55S profile data & Targets 3,4,7 (compare previous map and next slide)*

- Target 3 (crushed drums) appears in appropriate location (about 0E to 20E). Large response indicates drums must be metal, not cardboard.
- Target 4 (steel tank) response difficult to distinguish from adjacent target 3 in this data set.
- The average Rx waveform has been removed to produce a “residual” data profile which is shown here.
- Response to metal objects changes polarity before and after Tx turnoff (e.g. red to blue or purple). Tx turnoff at about 2.7 microseconds in this data set.
- Response to Target 7 (two steel casings) is more complex. The peak positive and negative responses are not directly over the casings and the apparent location of the targets shifts laterally with time. See later modeling results for further discussion.



Time ( $\mu$ s)

Easting (ft.)



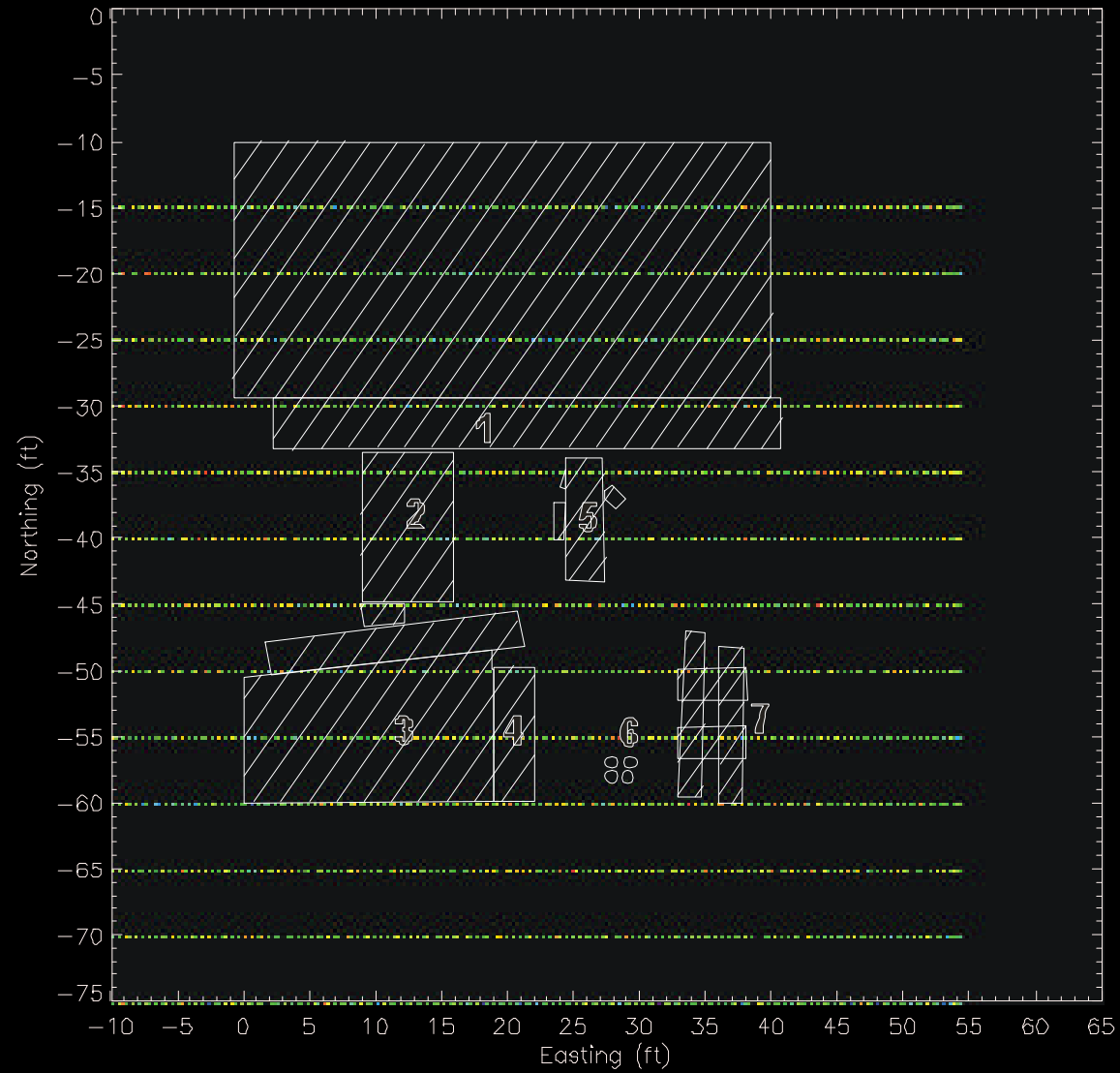
File: p7\_5s4n.L01

Line: 55 S, Large Object Pit, INEEL Cold Test Pit  
30 in. Perpendicular sq. Loops, 4 m loop spacing  
Residual Rx Data

Date: 7-12-98



COLD TEST PIT  
LARGE OBJECT PIT  
TRAVERSE LINES



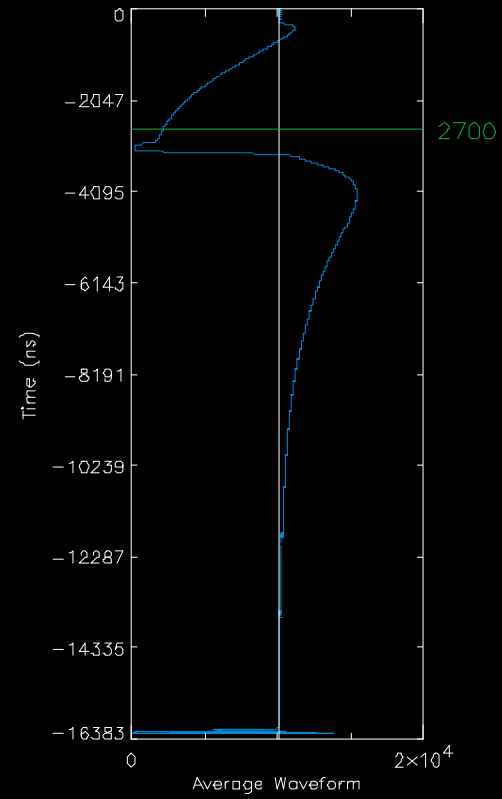
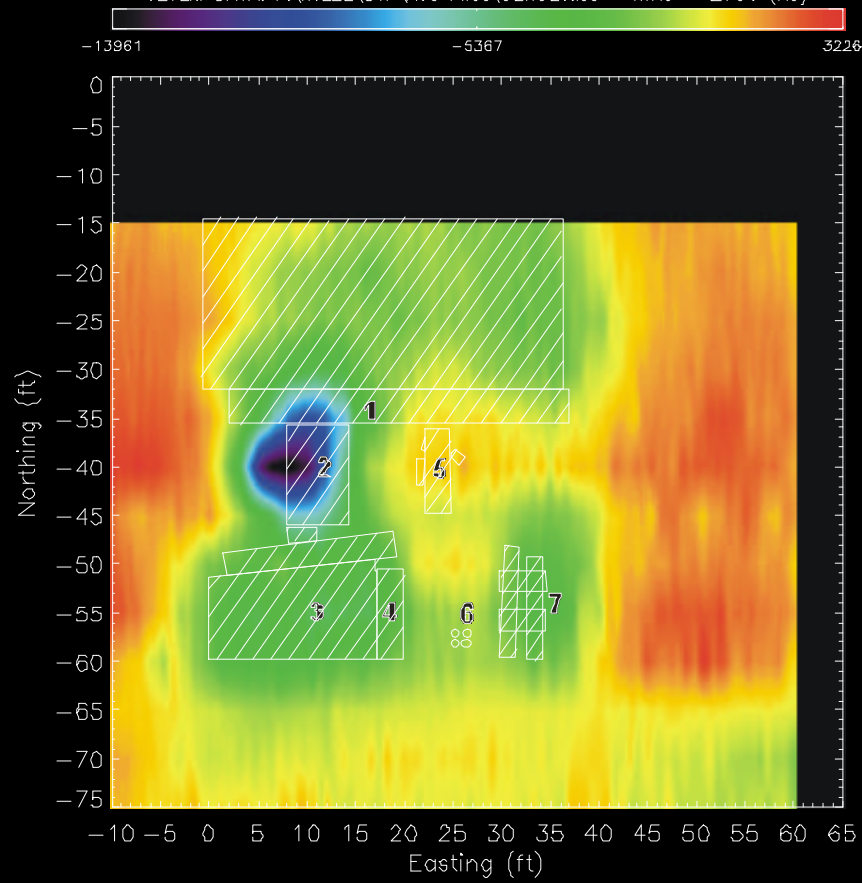


# *Comments on time-slice displays*

- Used perpendicular antennas at 2-m spacing (shown) and overlapped.
- Time slices begin when Tx on. Colors reverse after Tx off.
- Waveform on right is an average, but time-slices are of residual data.
- The horizontal line at right shows time of display.
- Color scales have been manually adjusted.
- Numbers on color bar indicate total range of data in digitizer units.
- Signal-to-noise ratio O.K. to about 10000 ns without smoothing data.
- Strongest response is from target 2 (drum stack). Apparent maximum response is shifted slightly to the west from that indicated on map. See later discussion of modeling results.
- Note also that the apparent position of Target 7 wanders. See modeling results and compare with previous profile of line 55S.

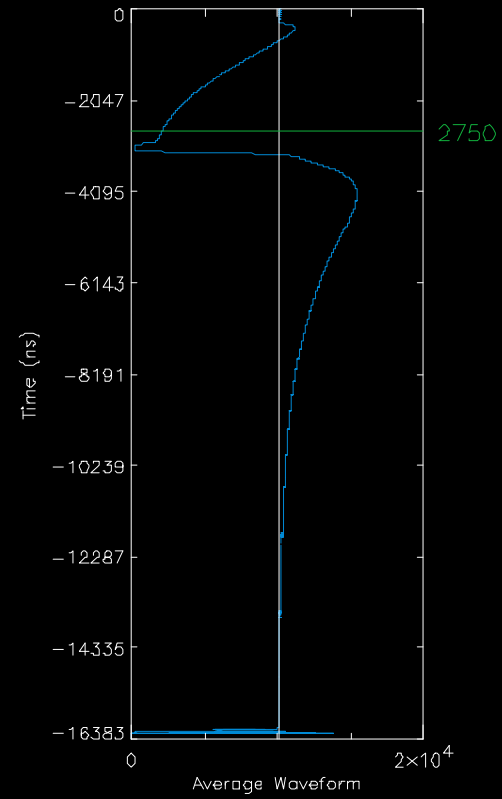
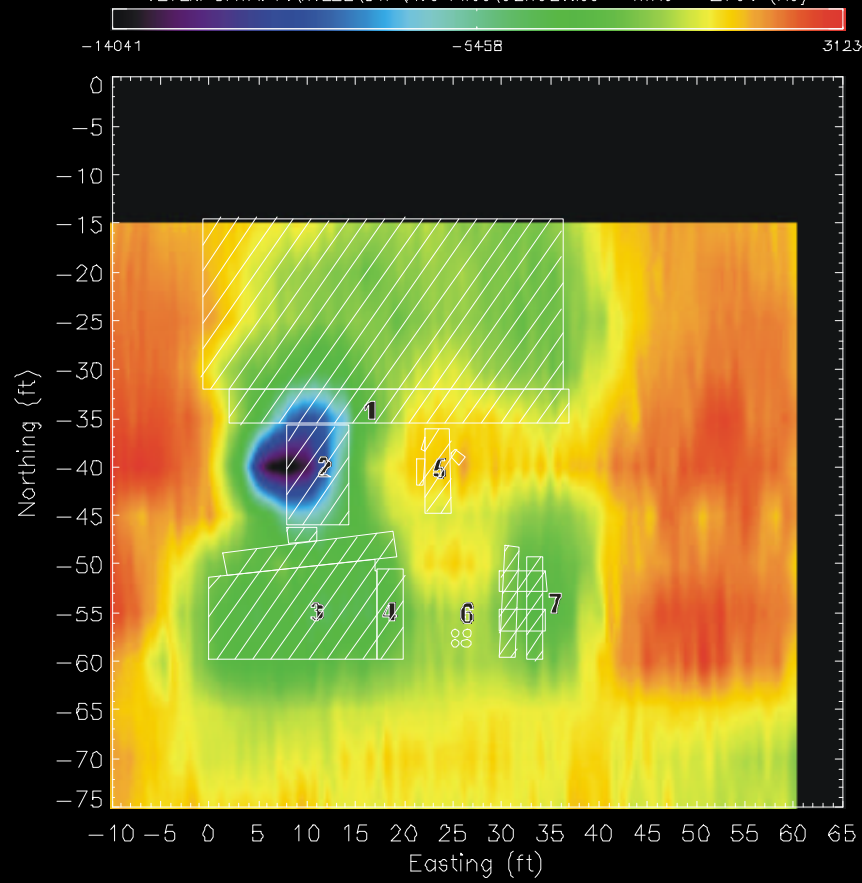
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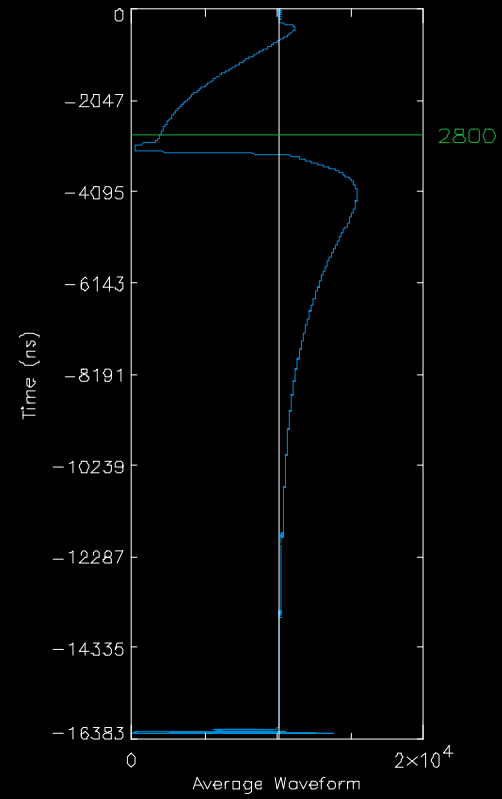
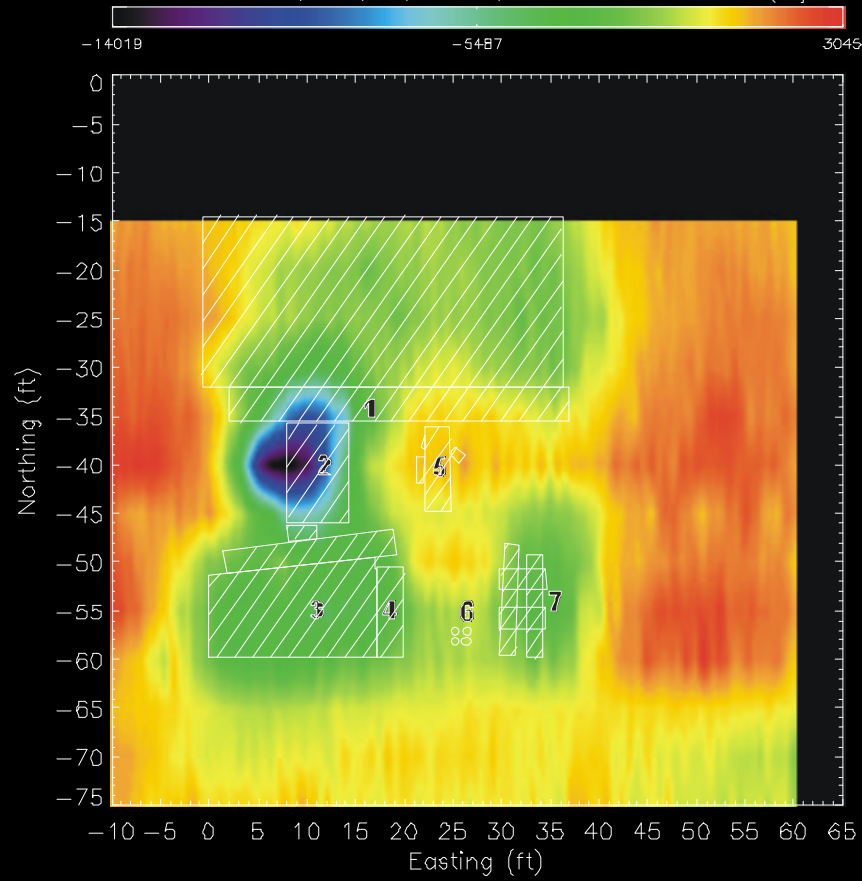
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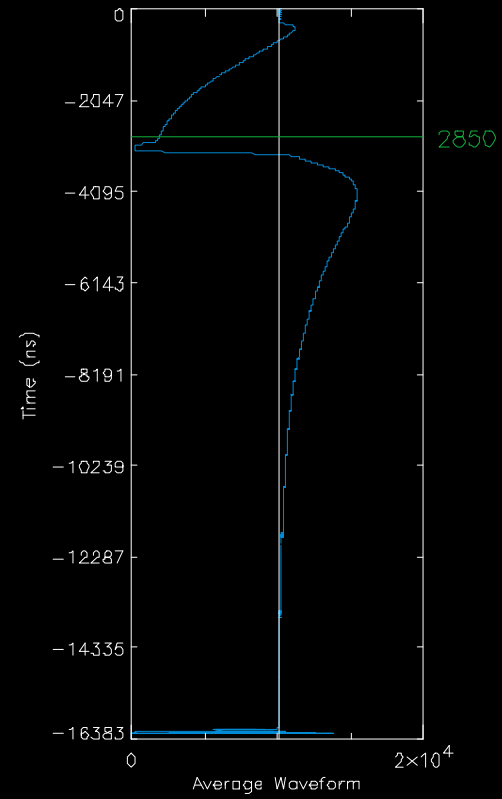
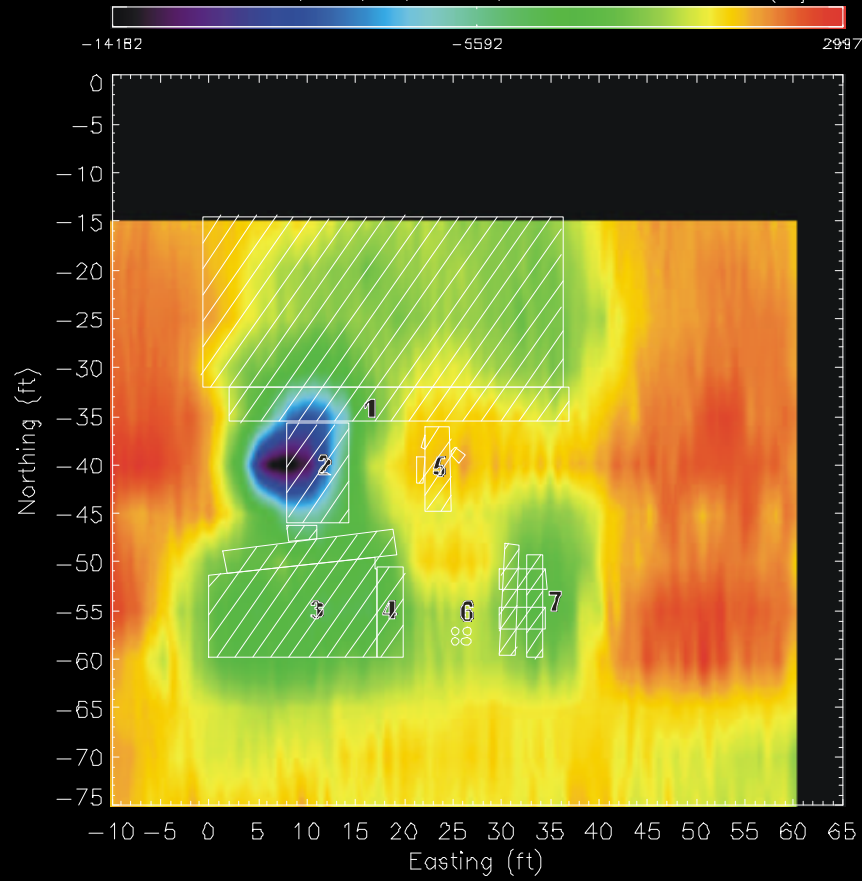
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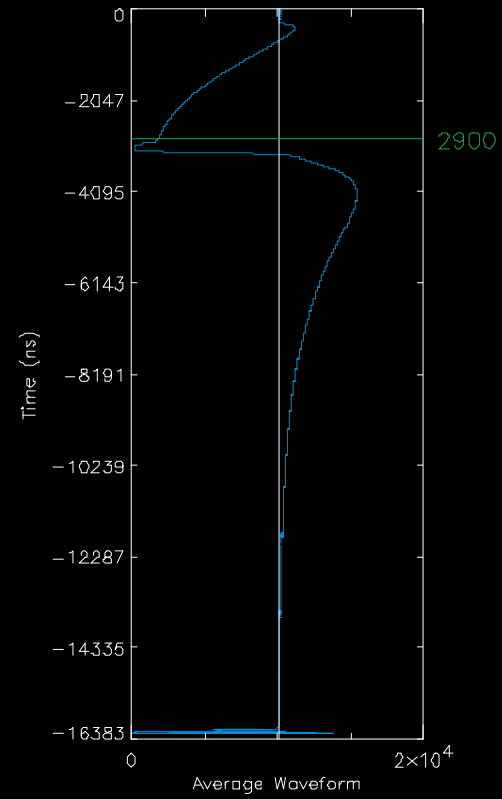
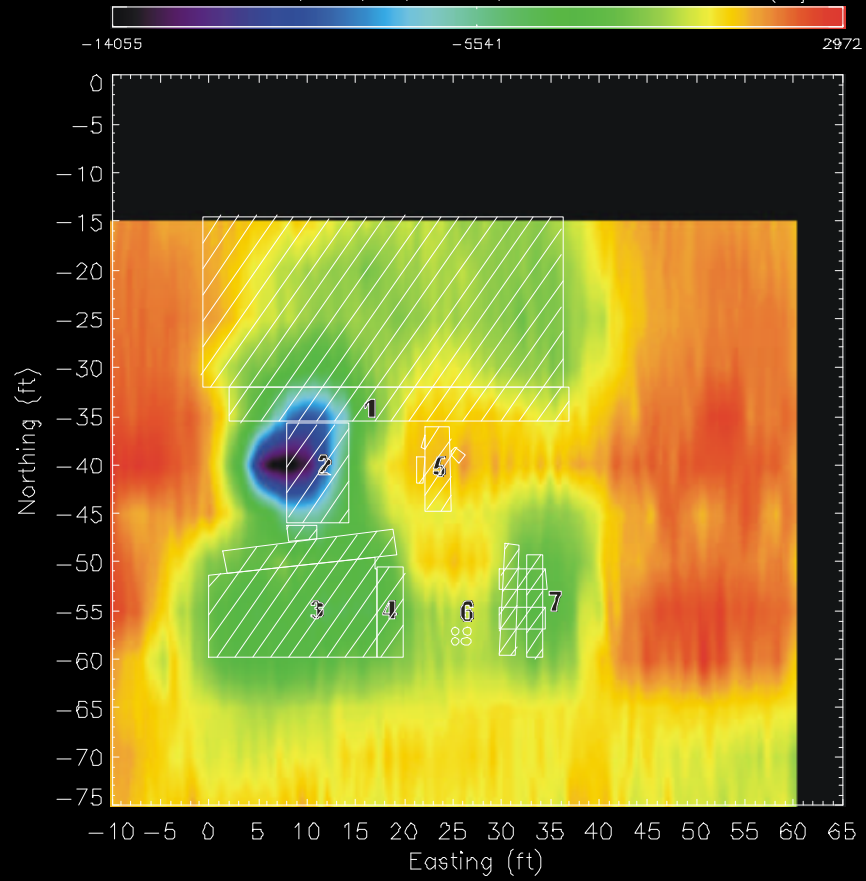
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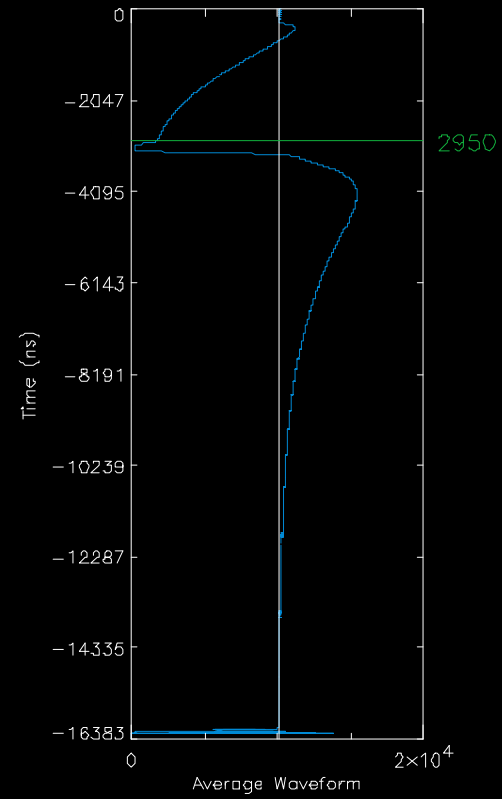
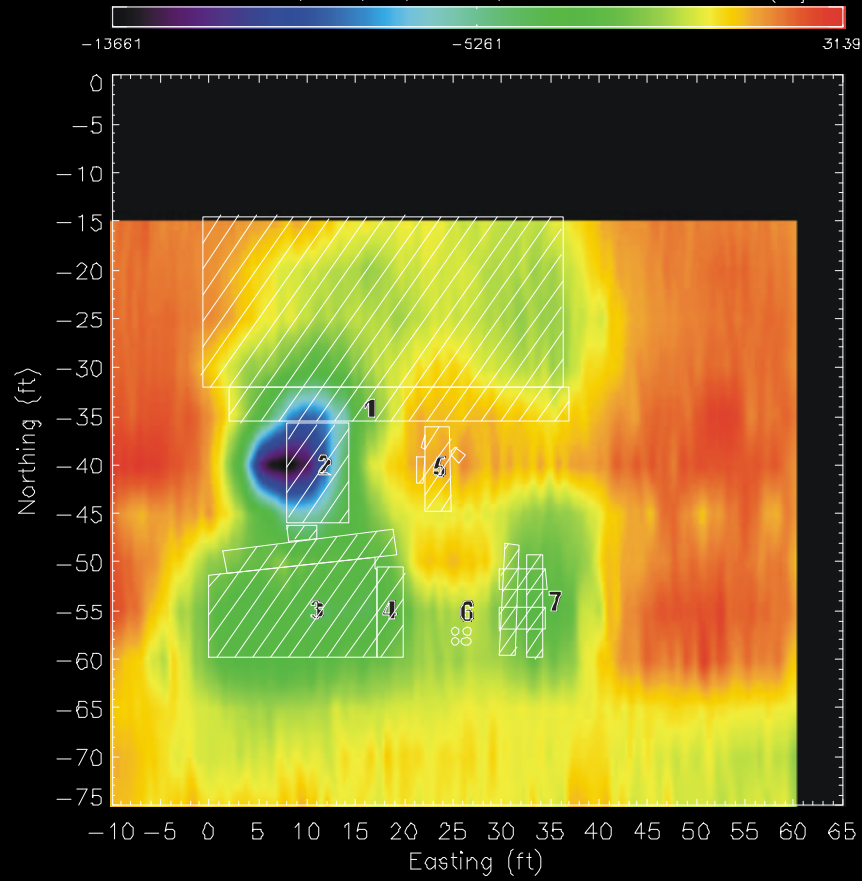
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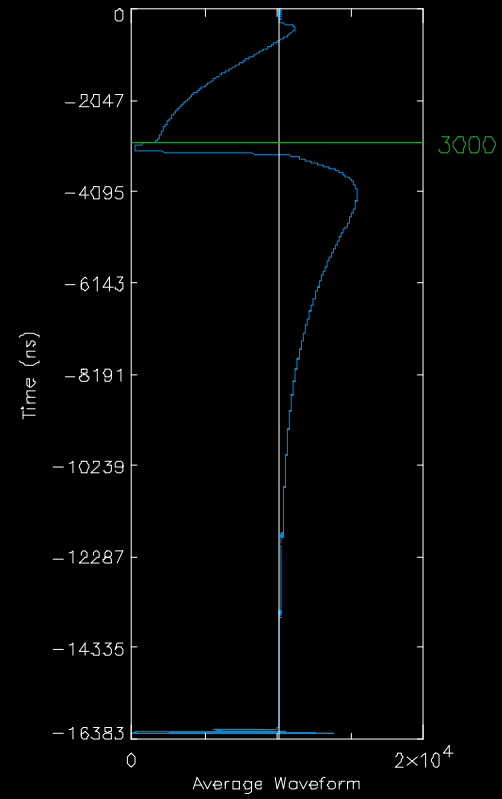
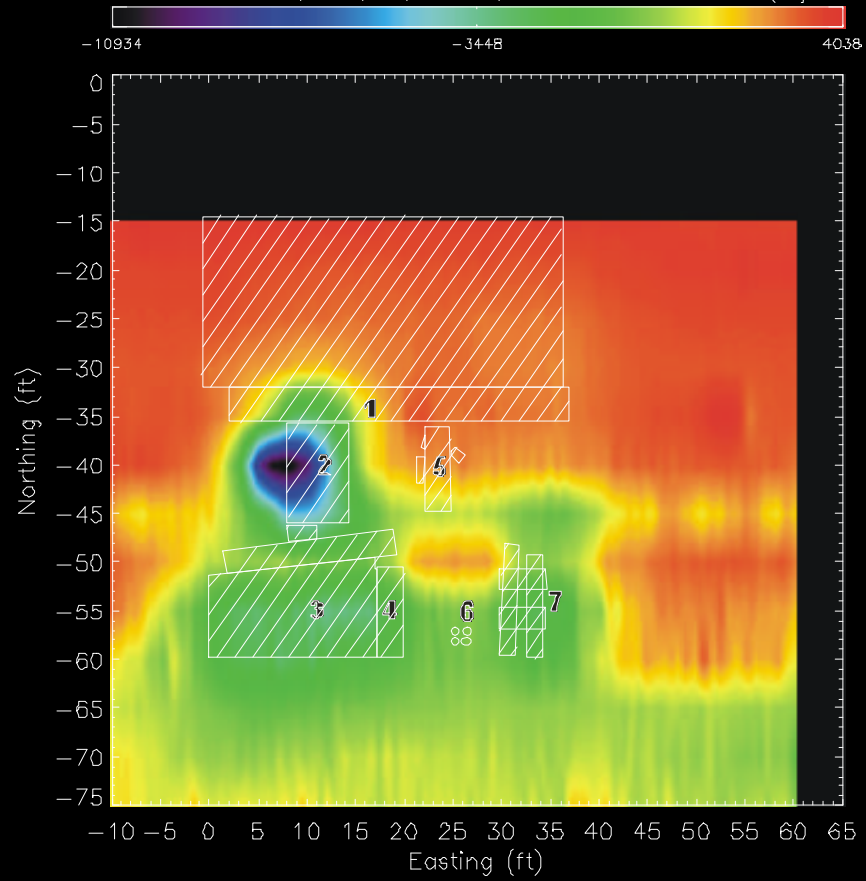
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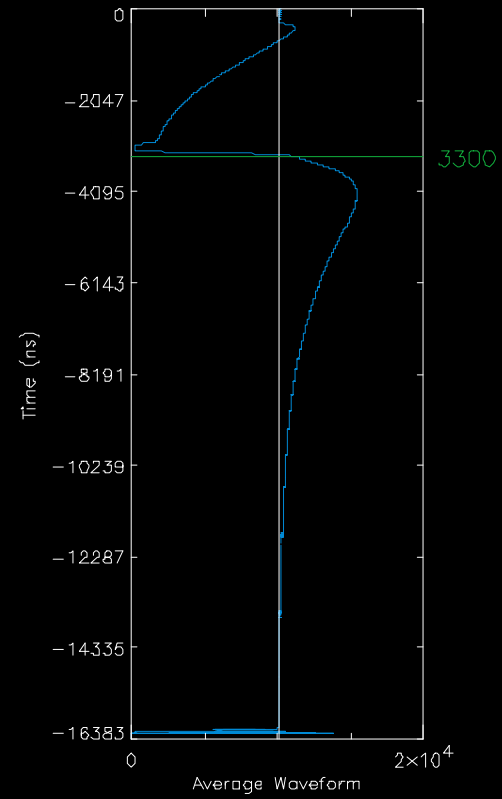
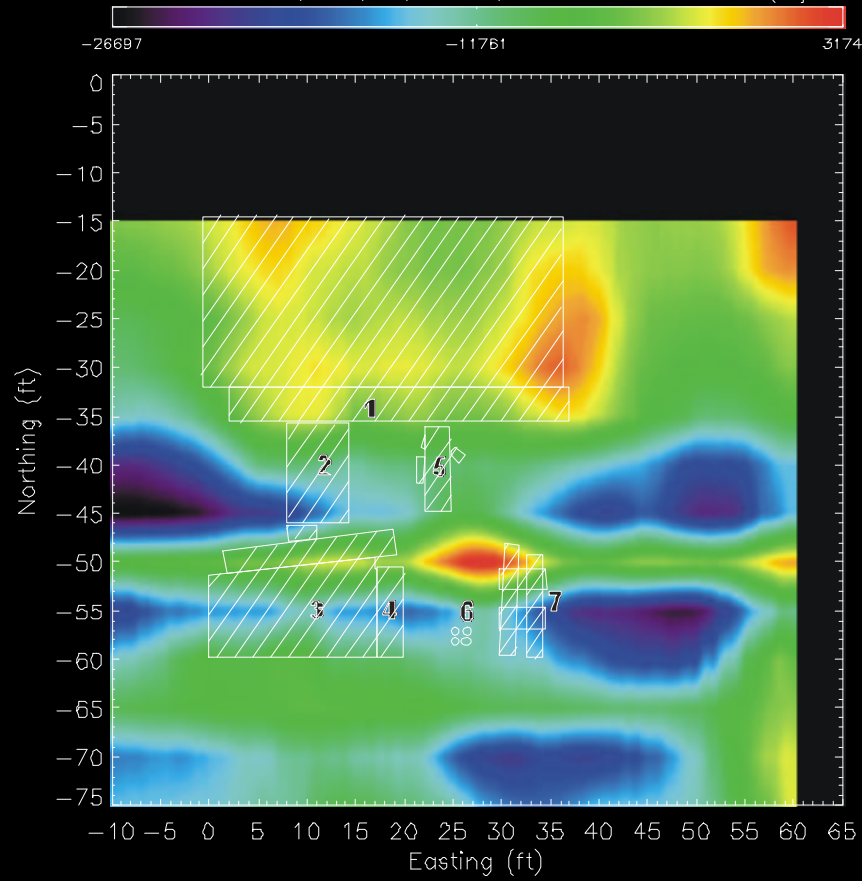
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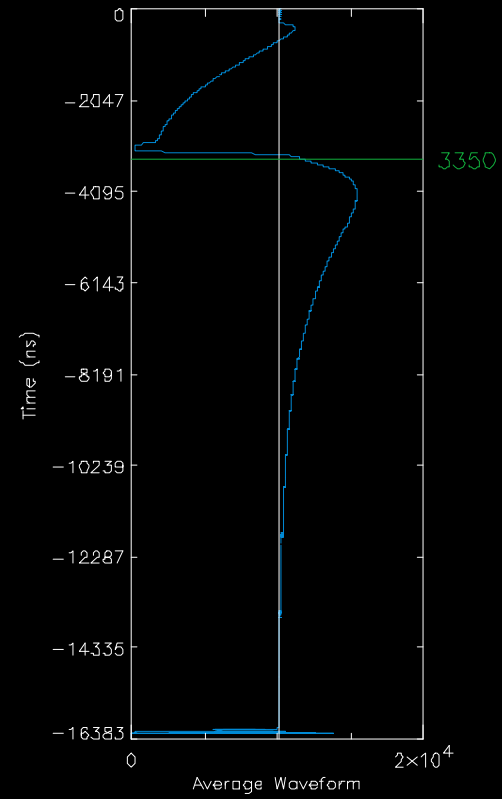
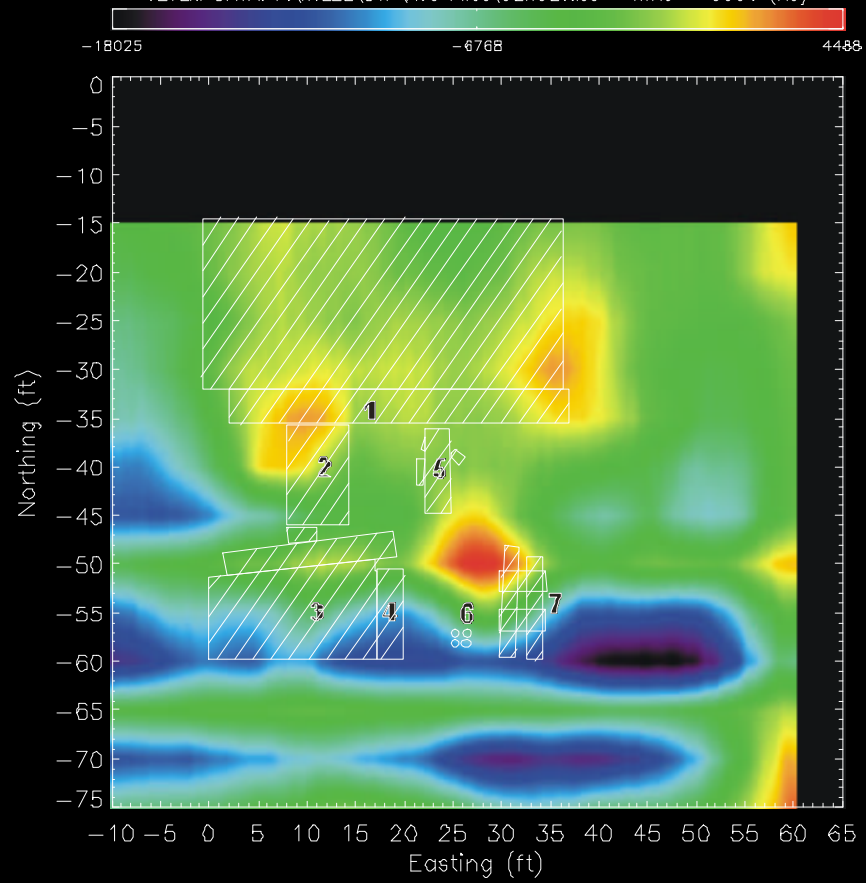
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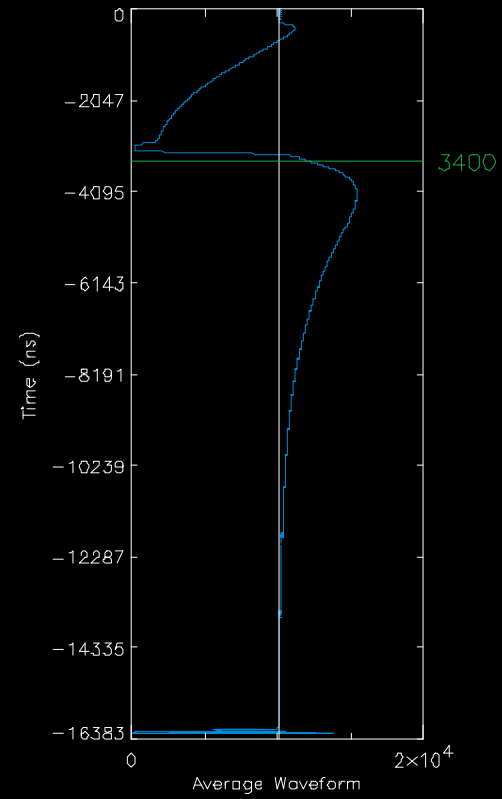
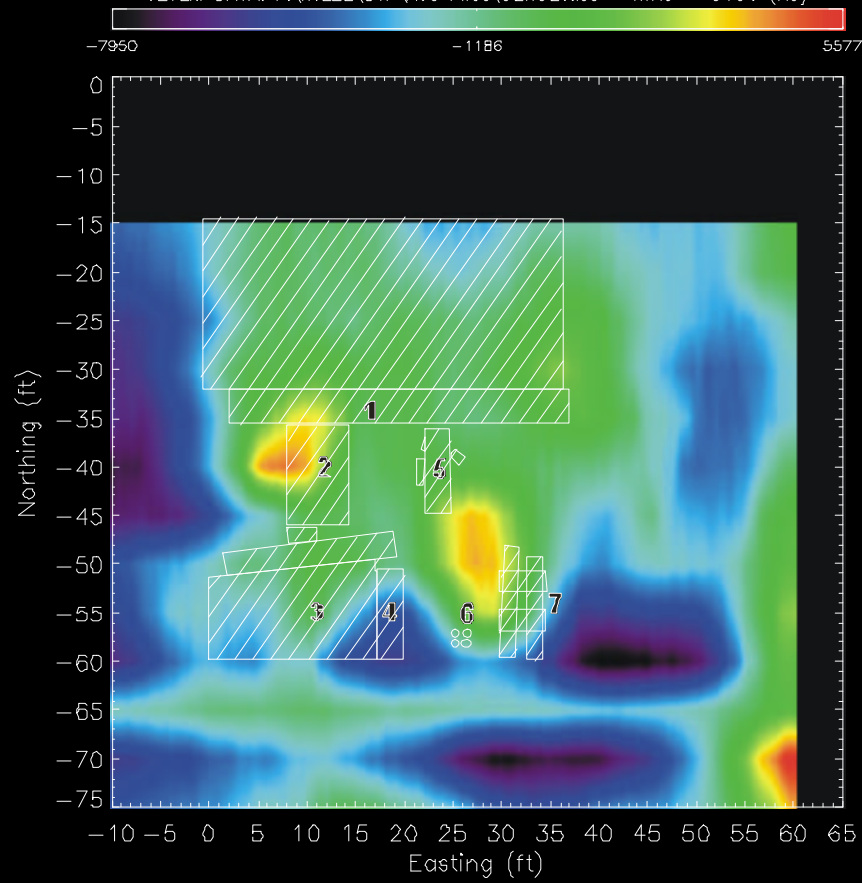
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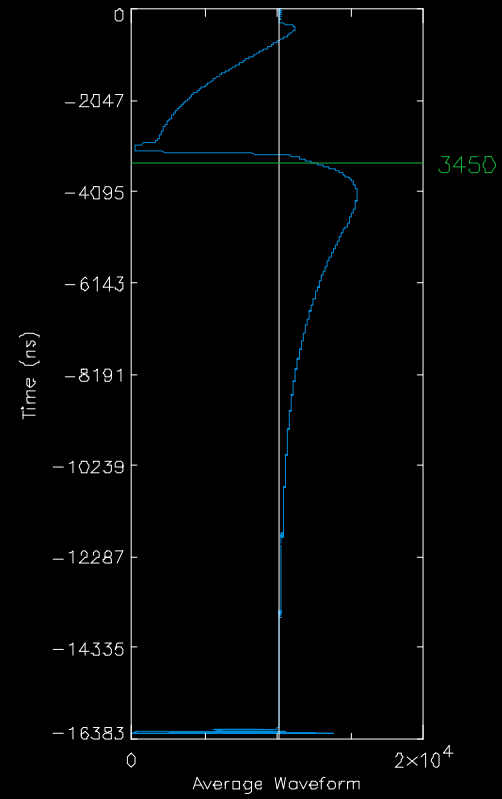
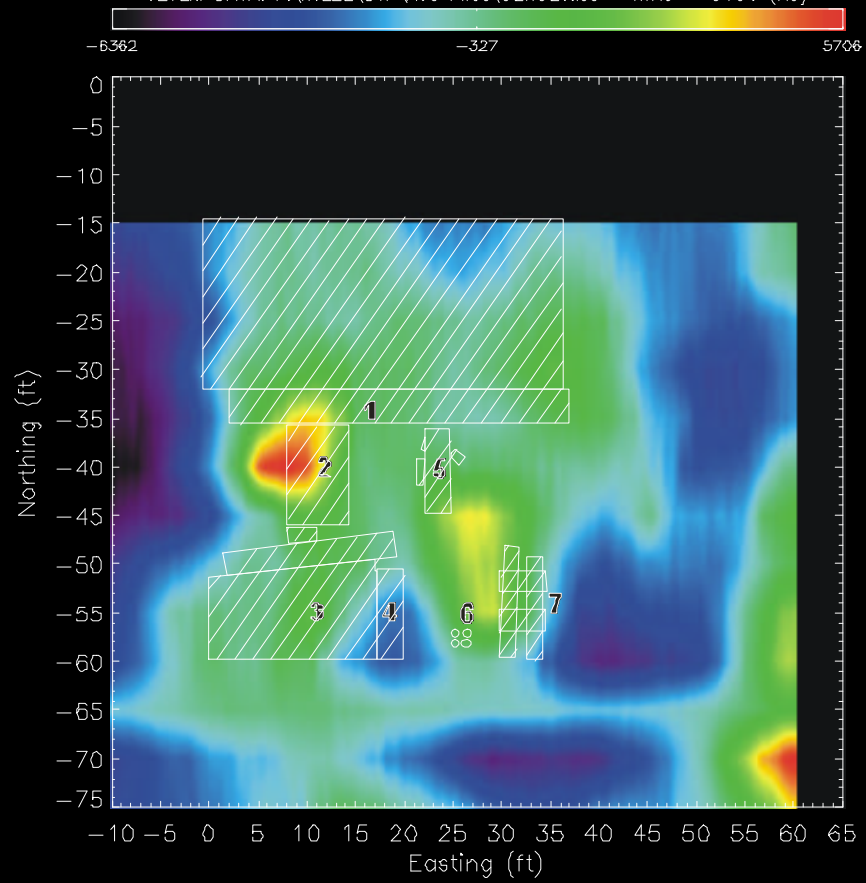
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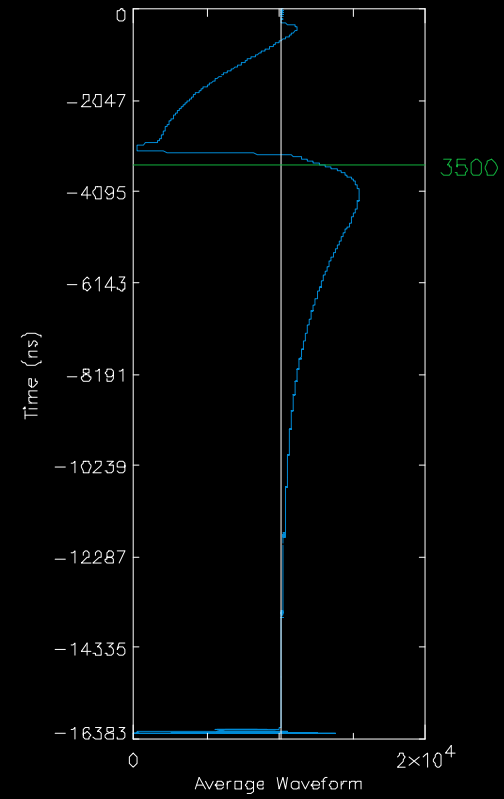
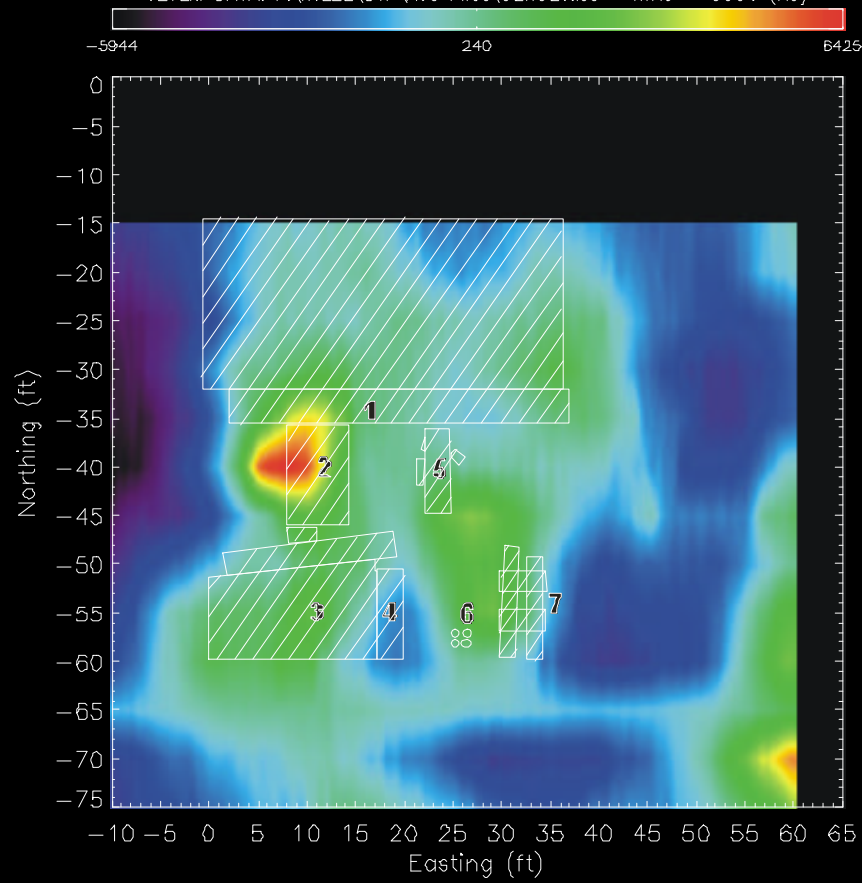
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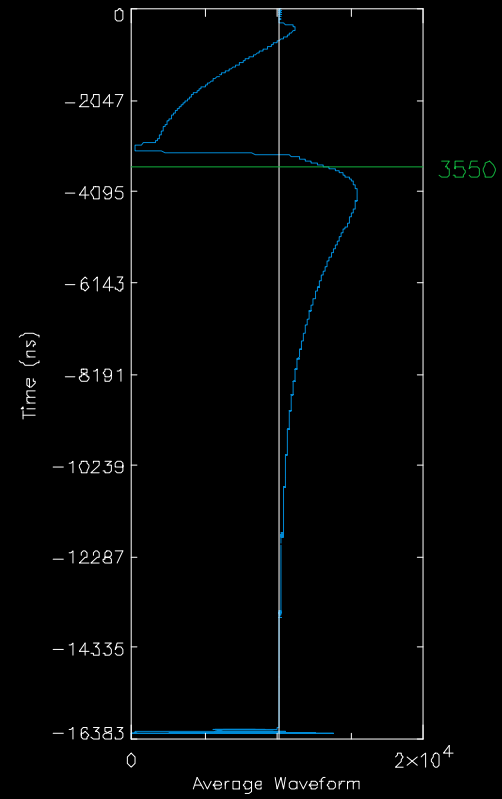
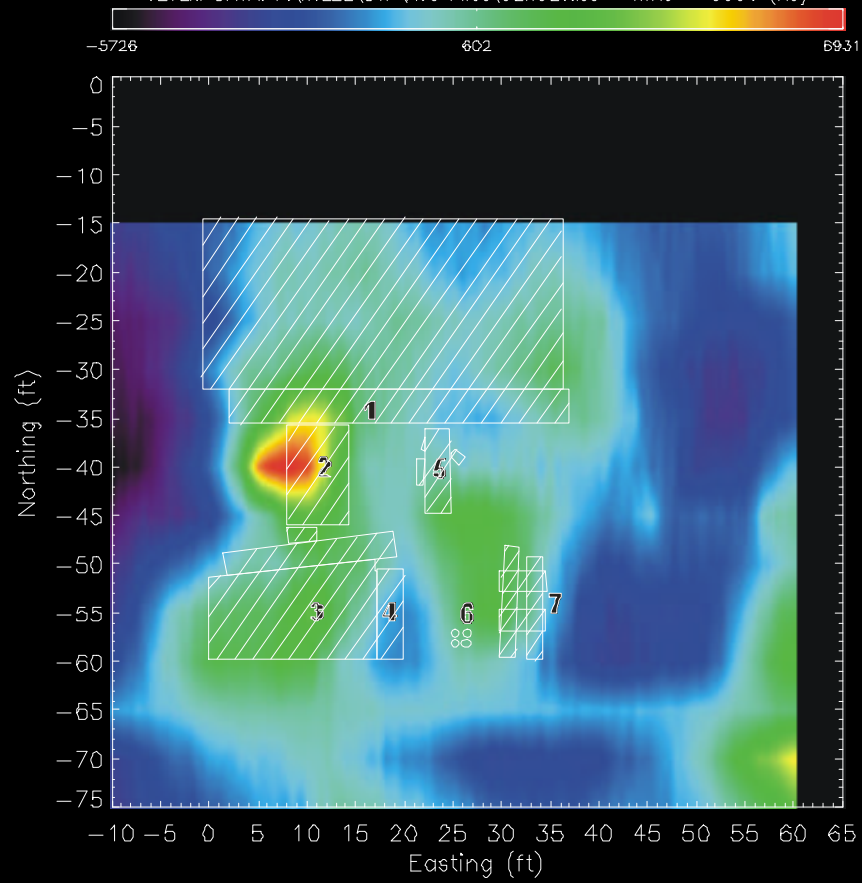
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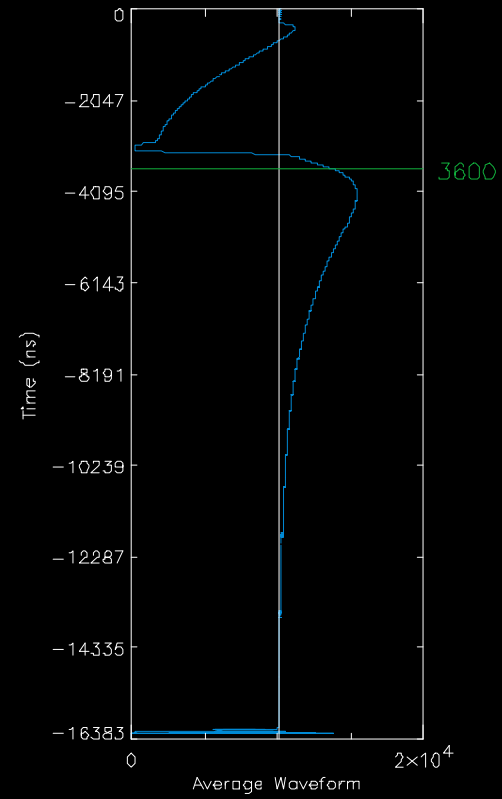
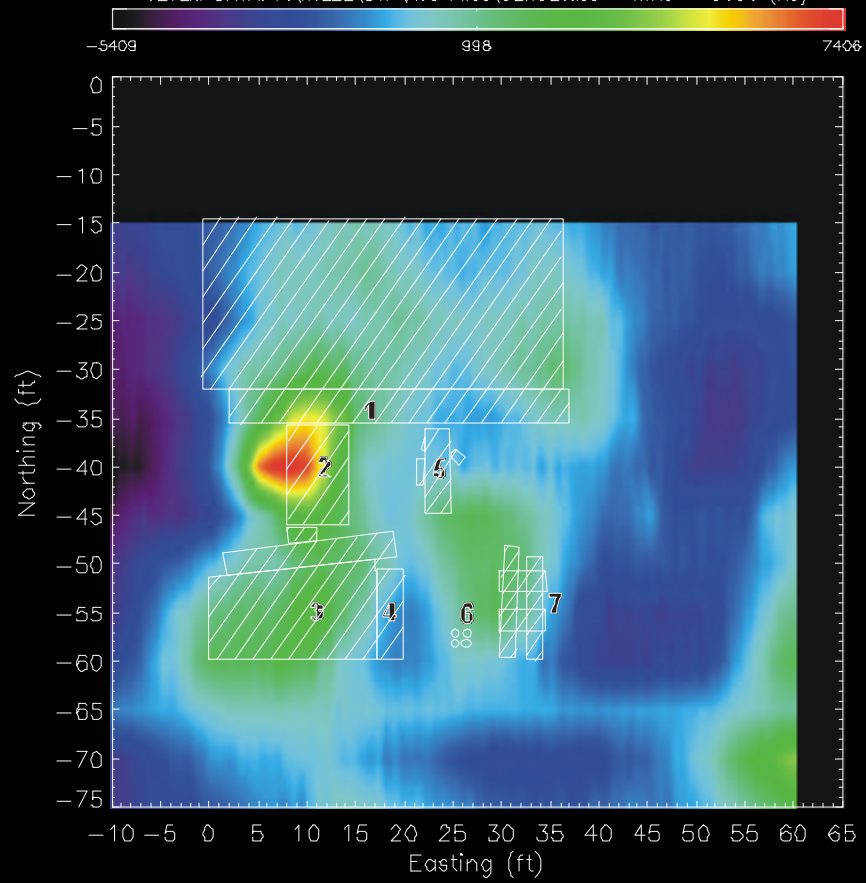
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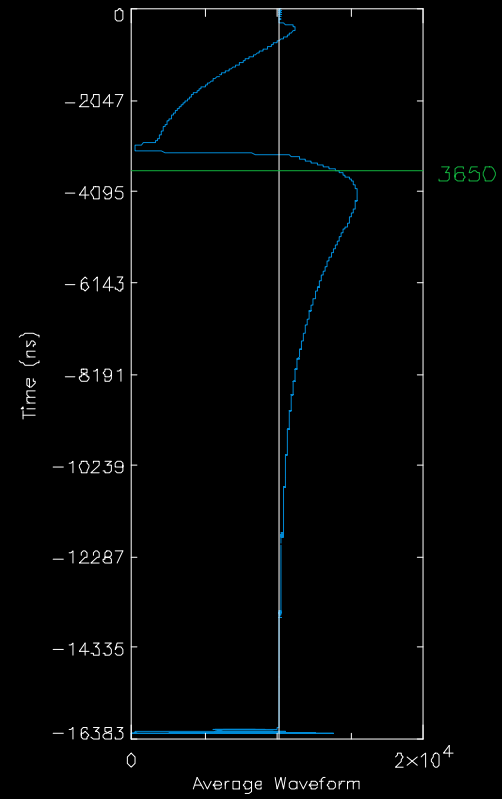
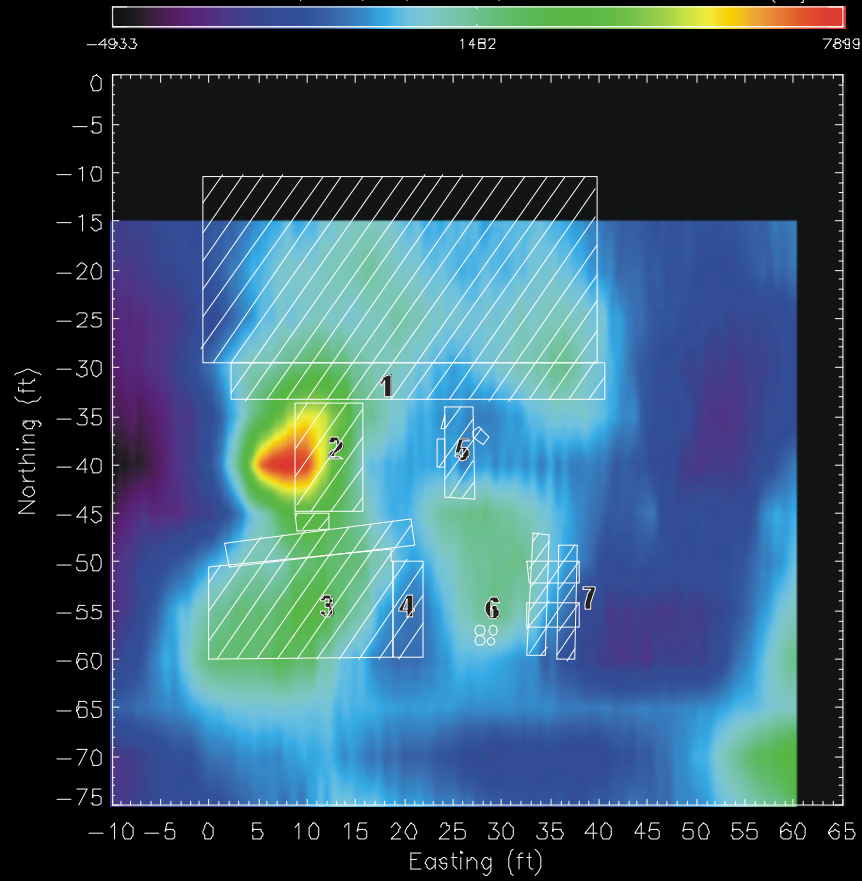
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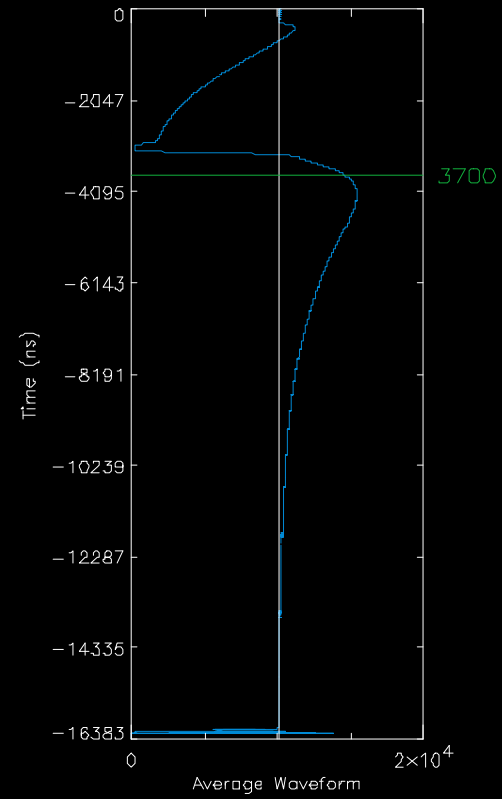
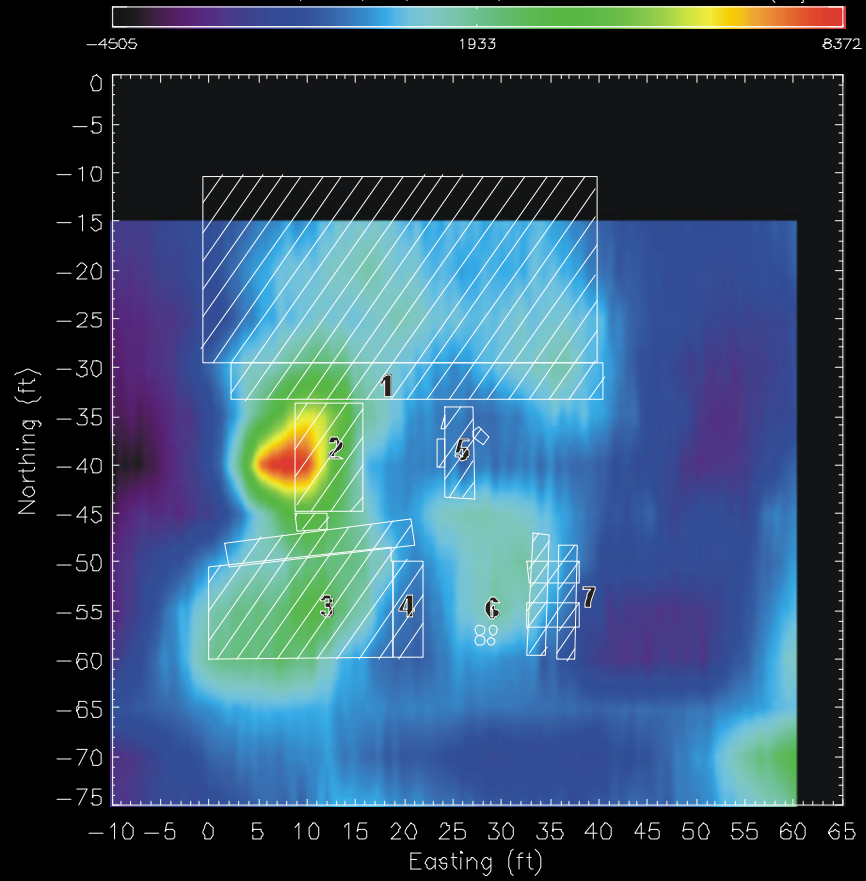
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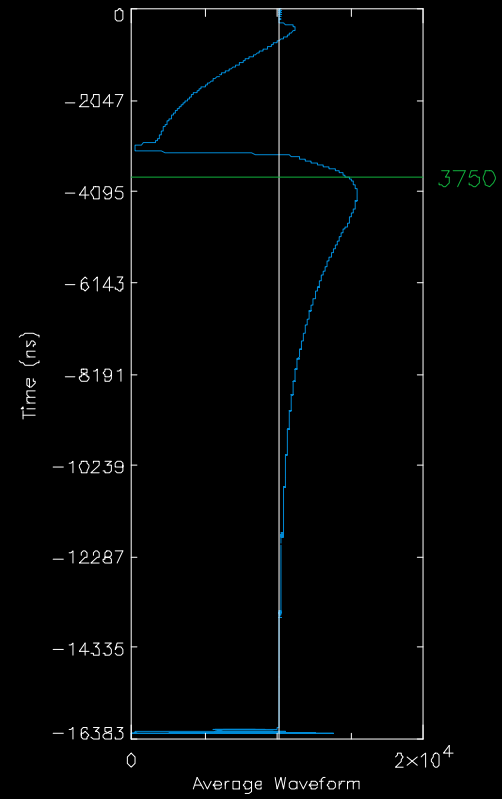
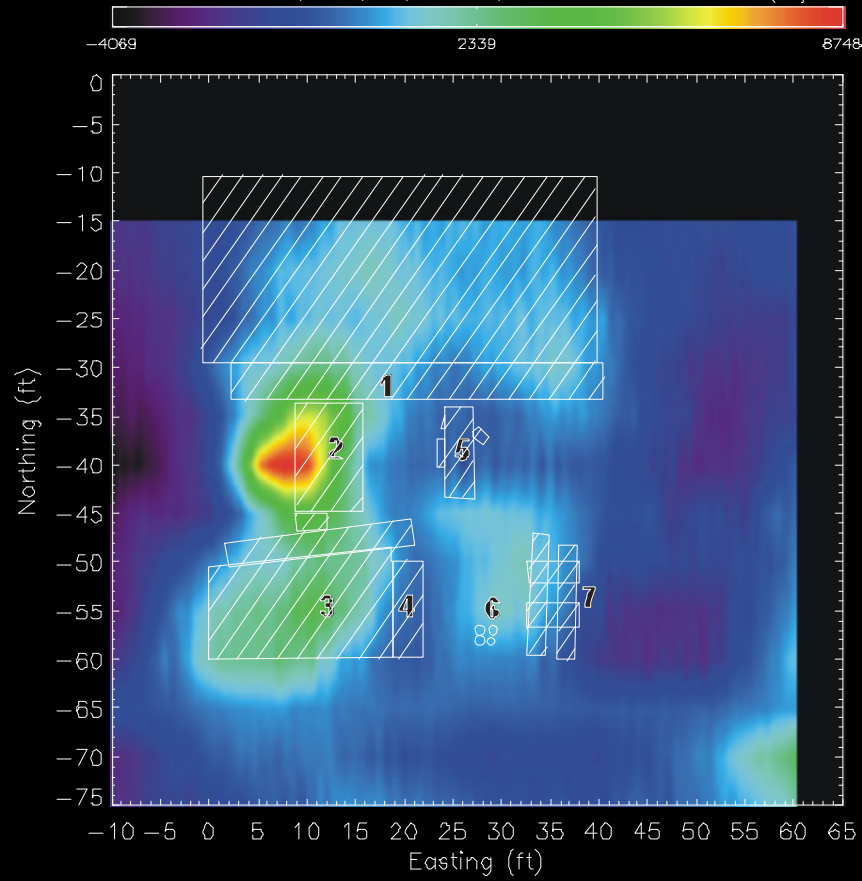
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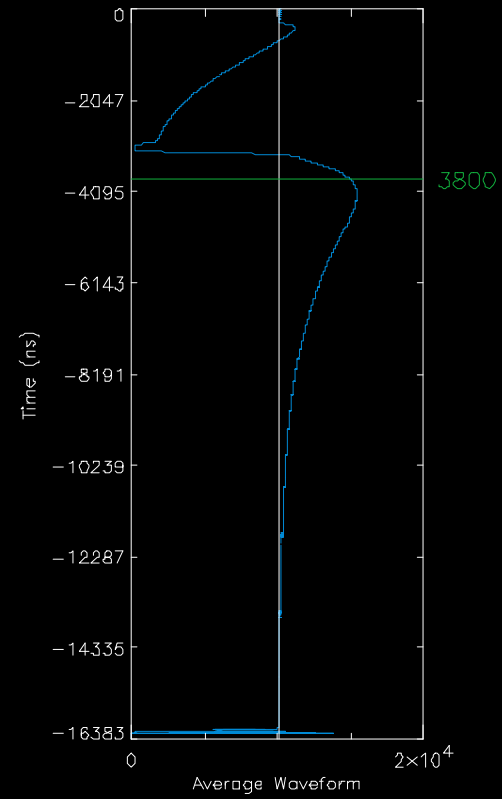
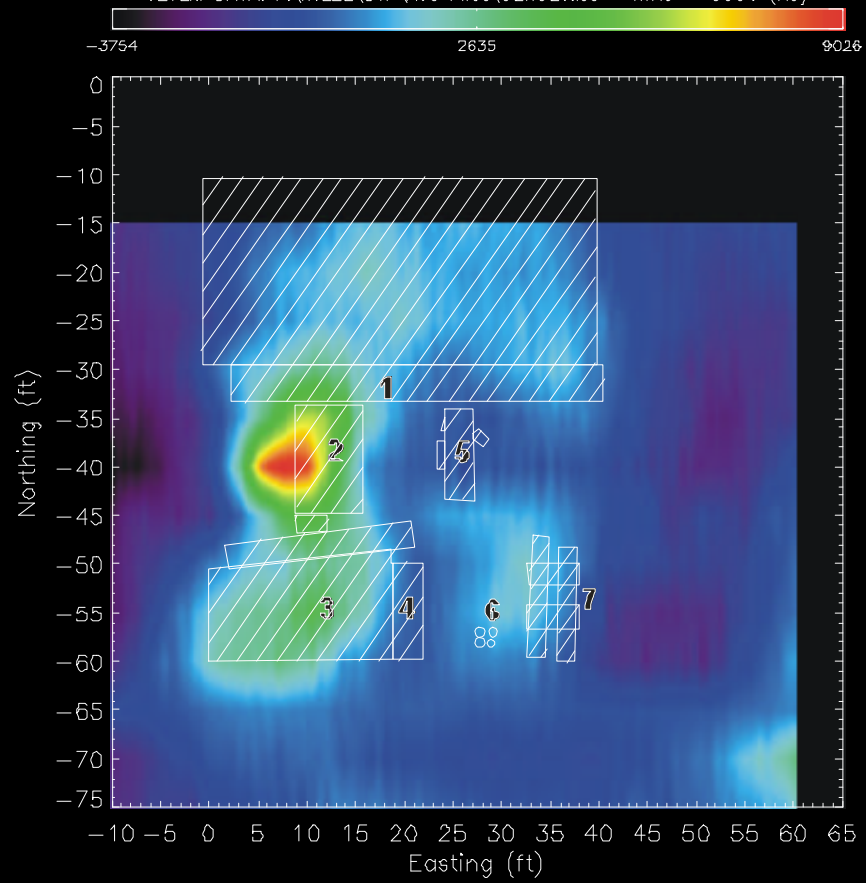
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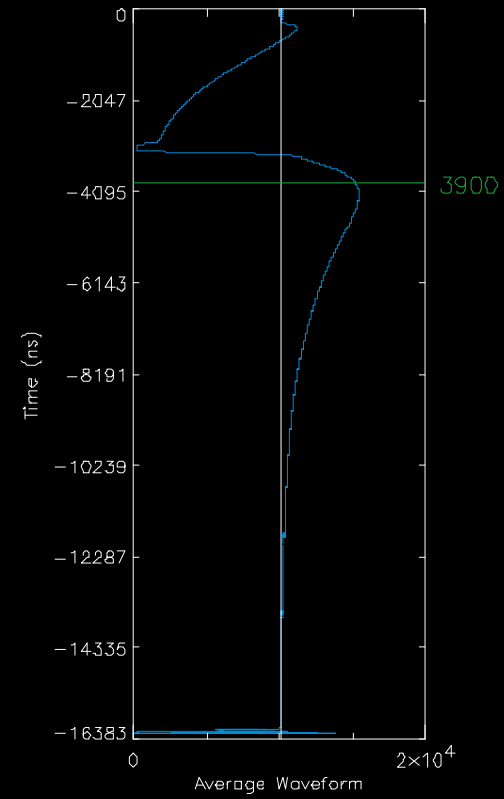
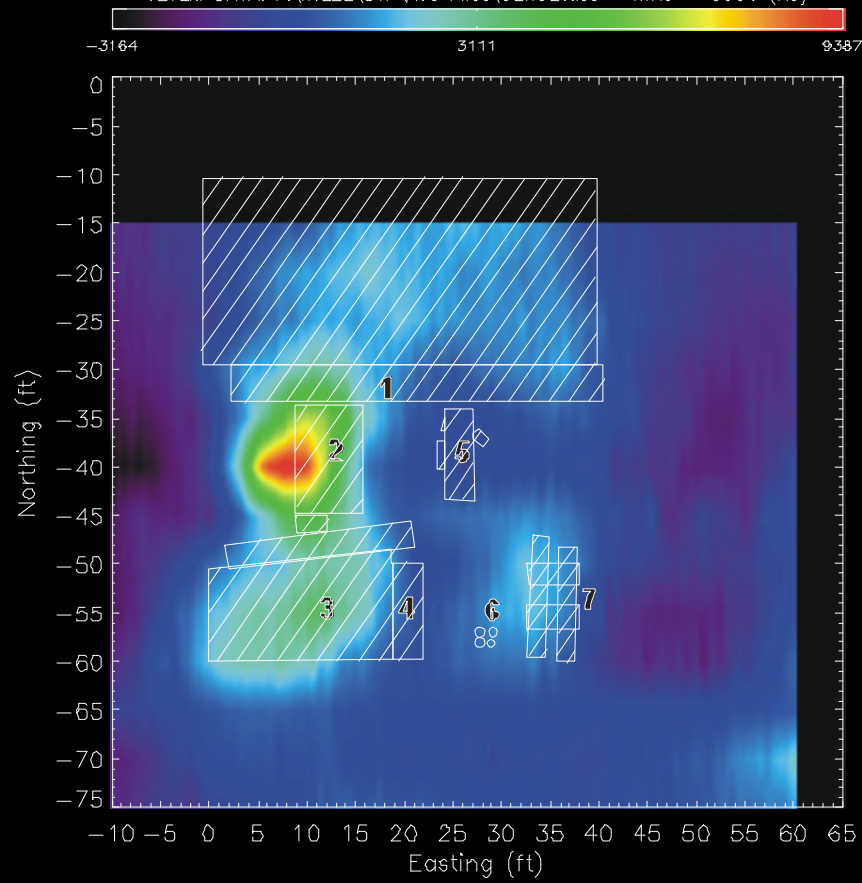
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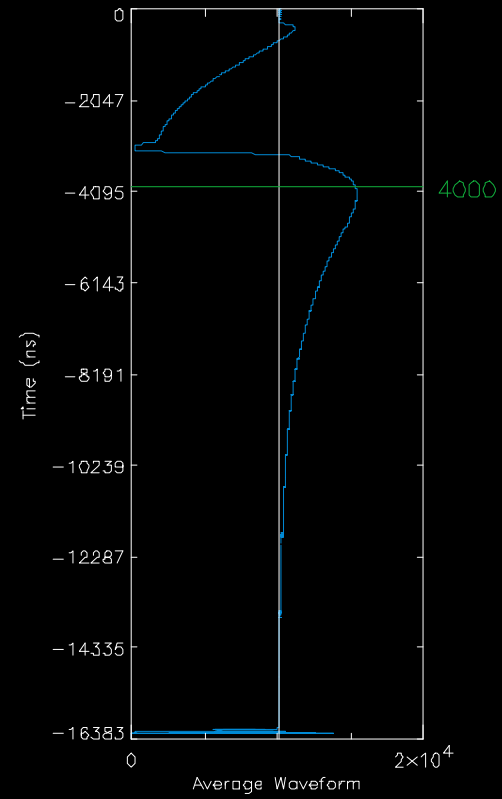
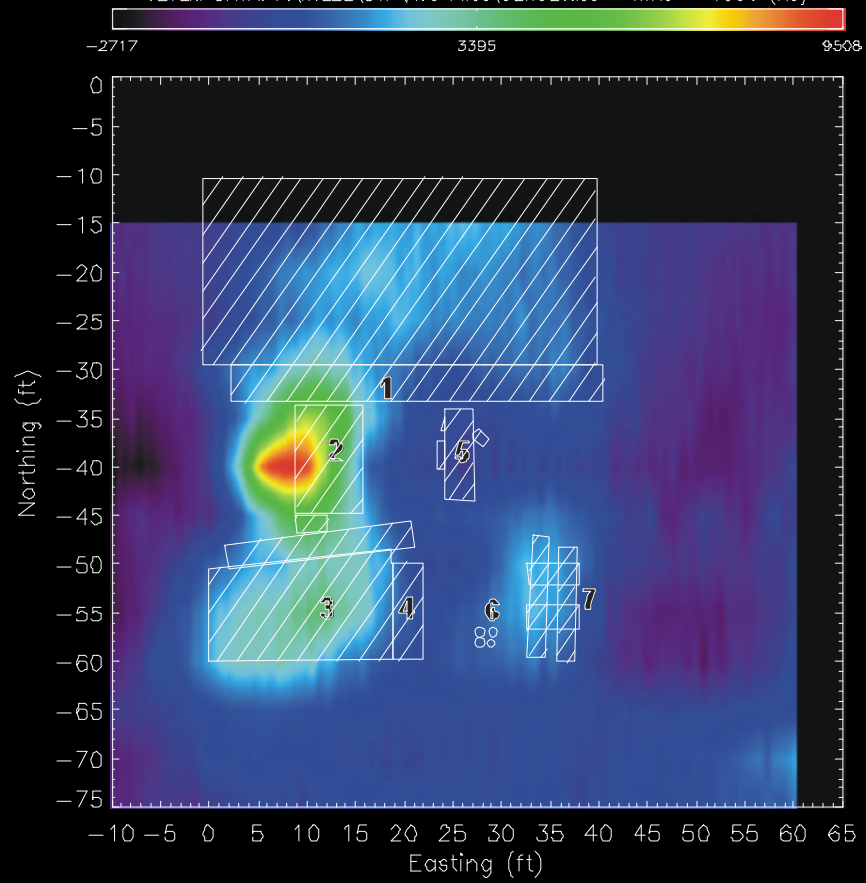
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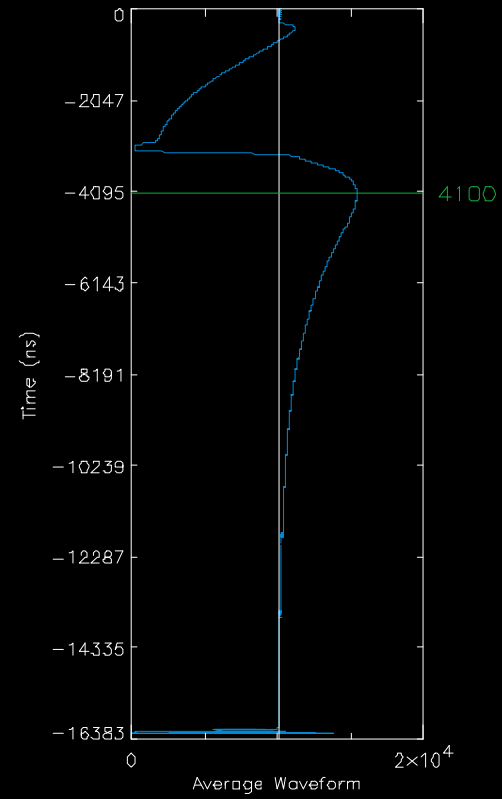
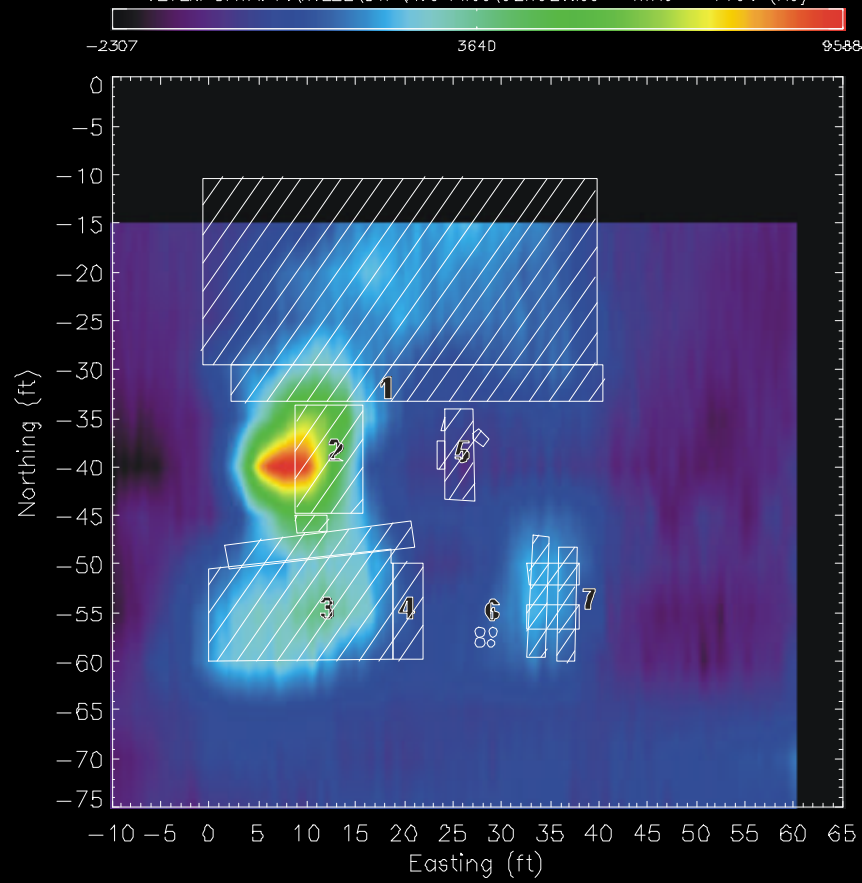
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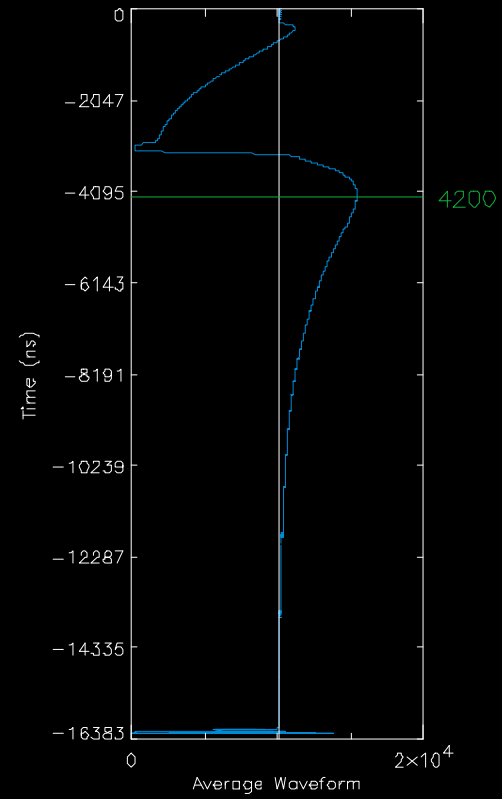
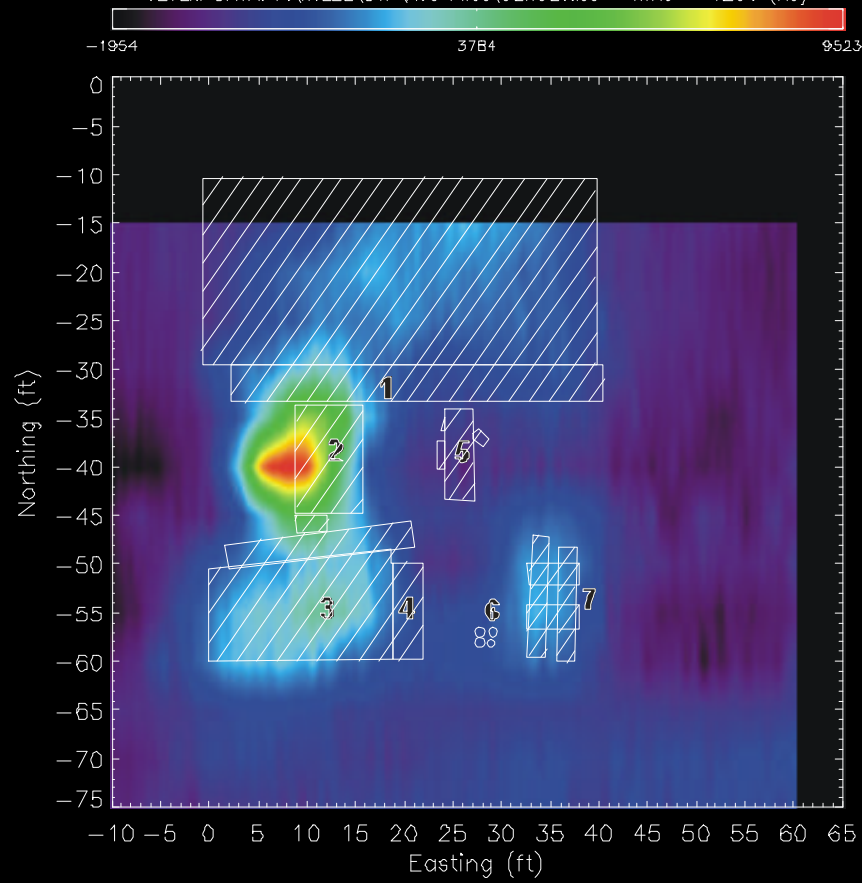
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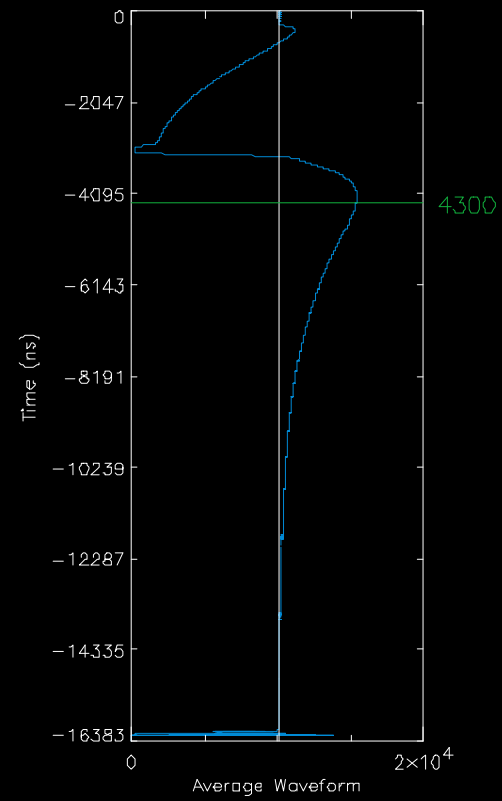
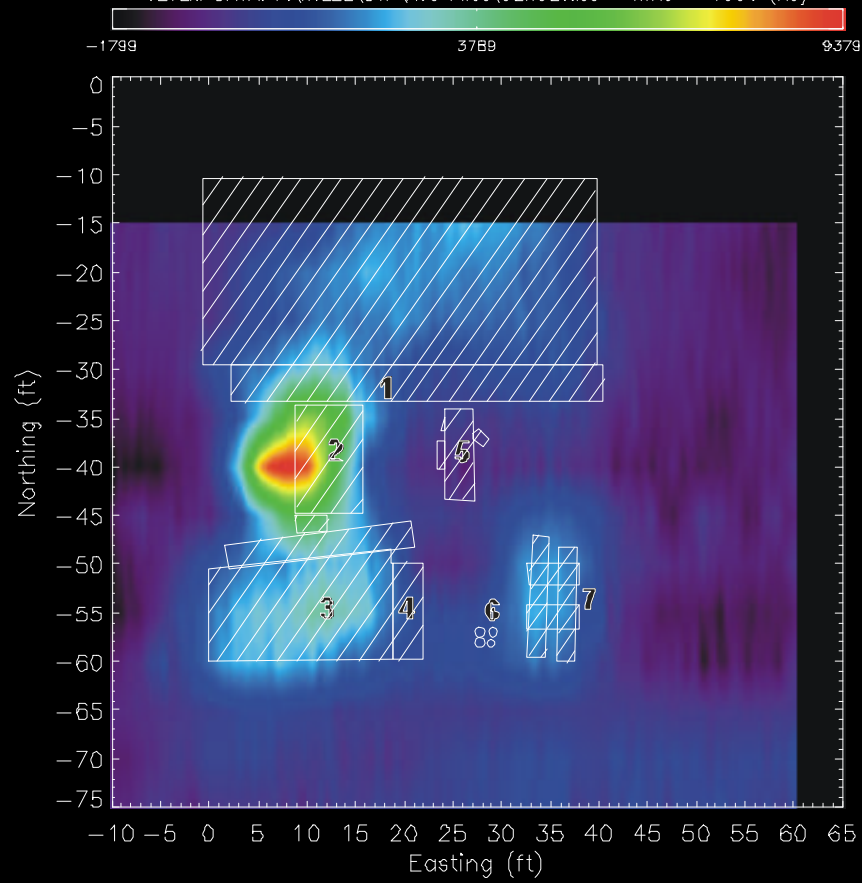
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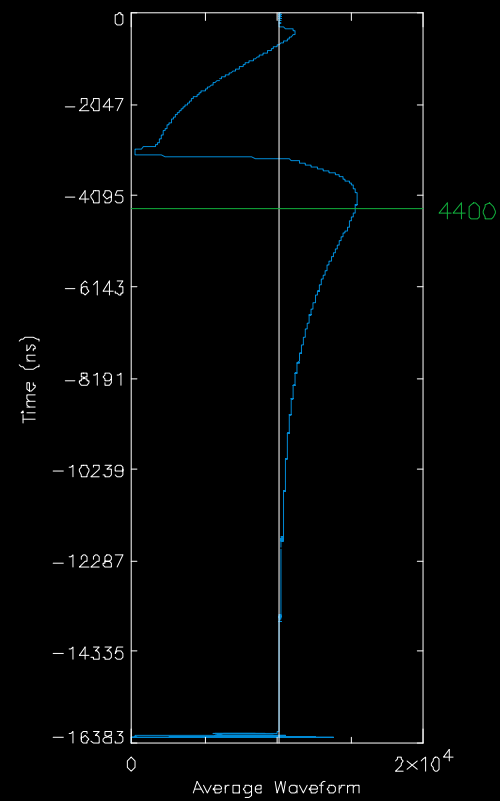
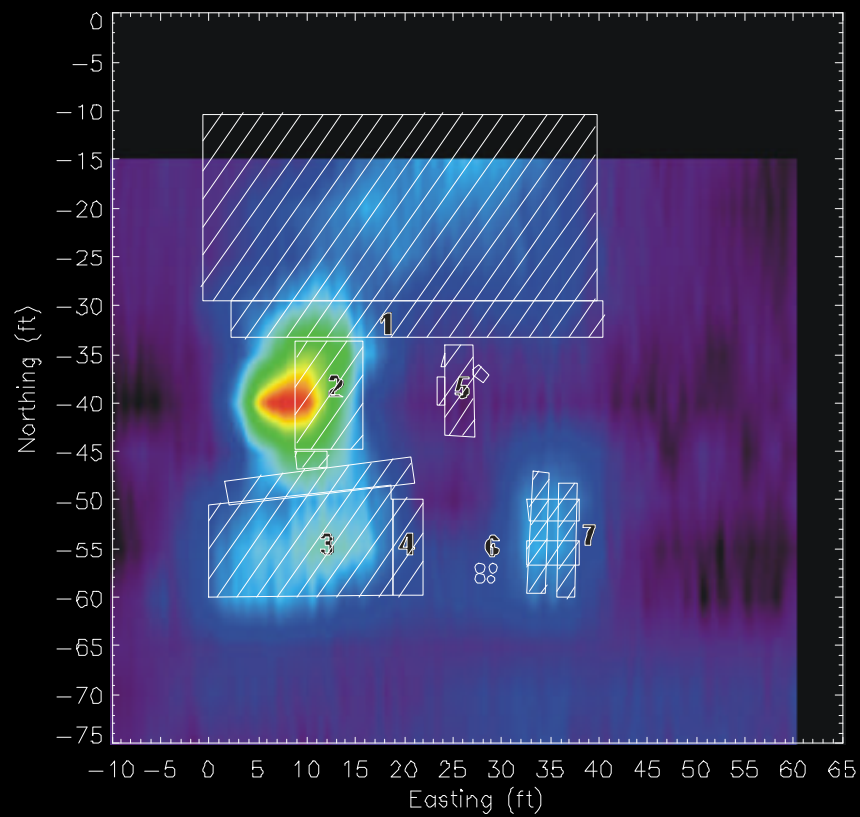




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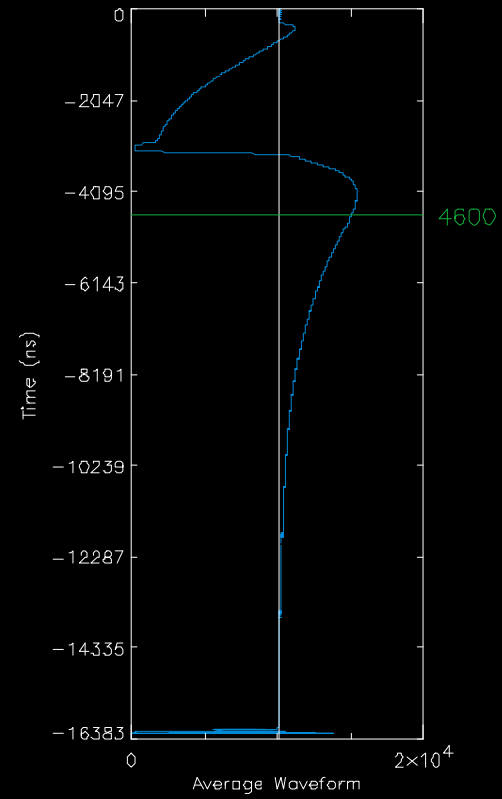
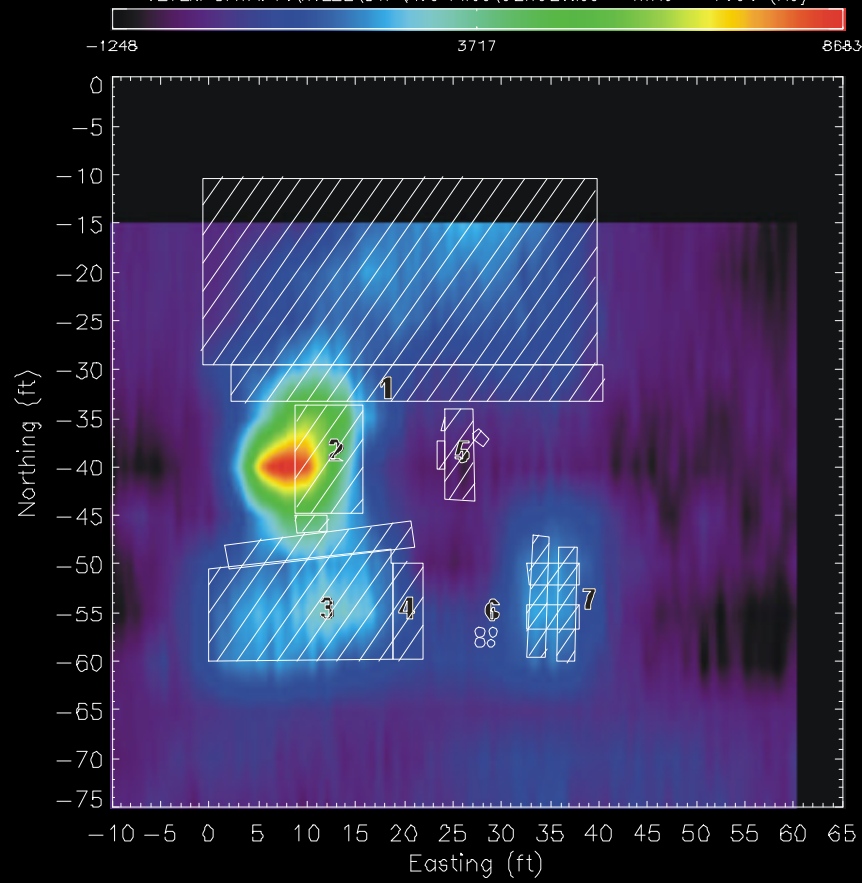
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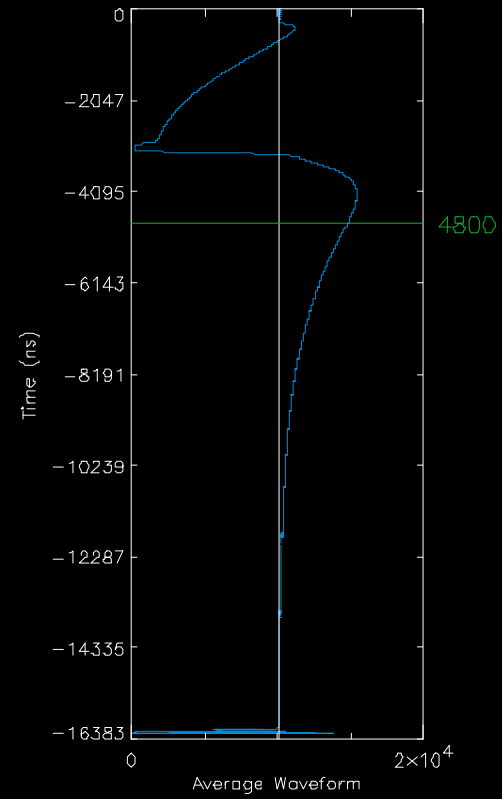
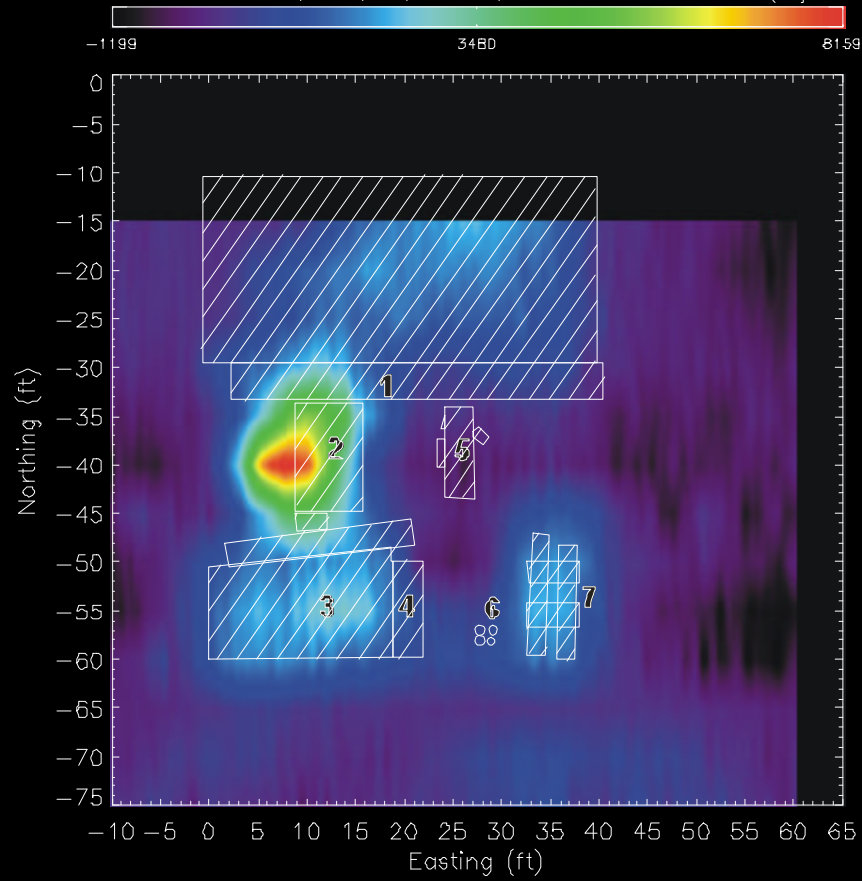
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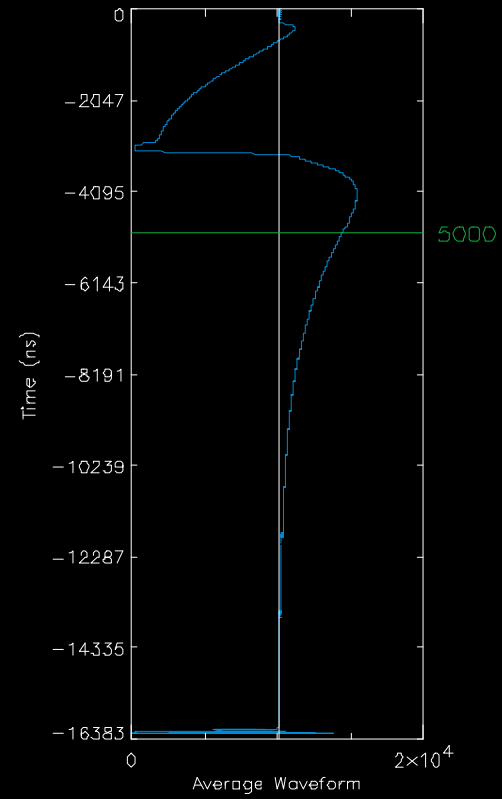
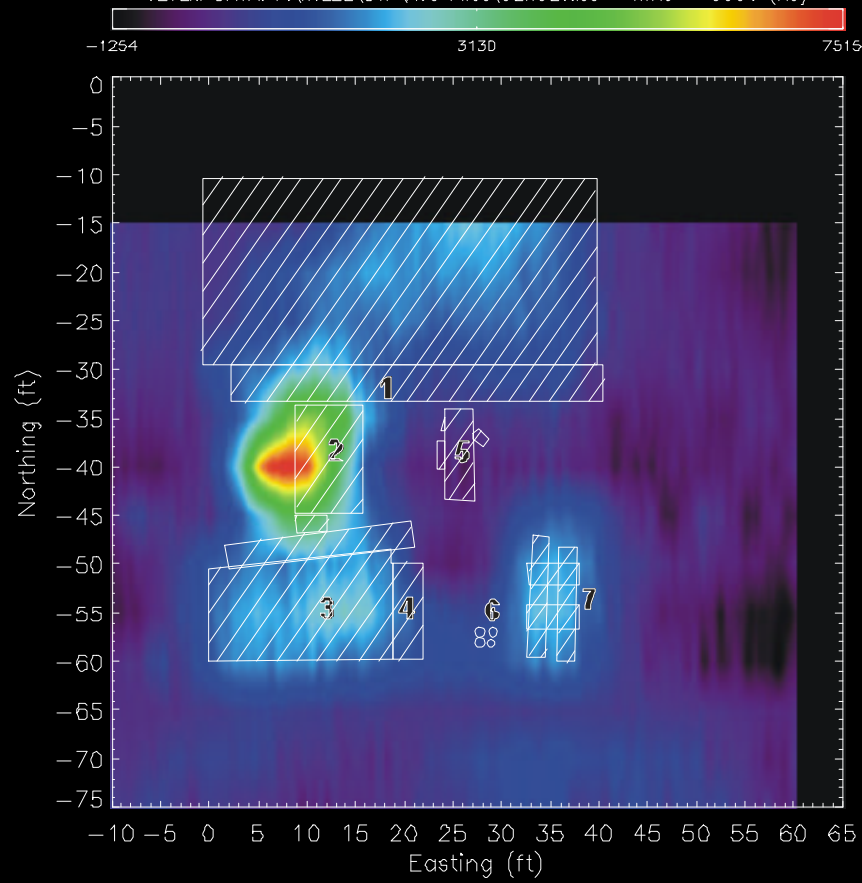
# COLD TEST PIT LARGE OBJECT PIT

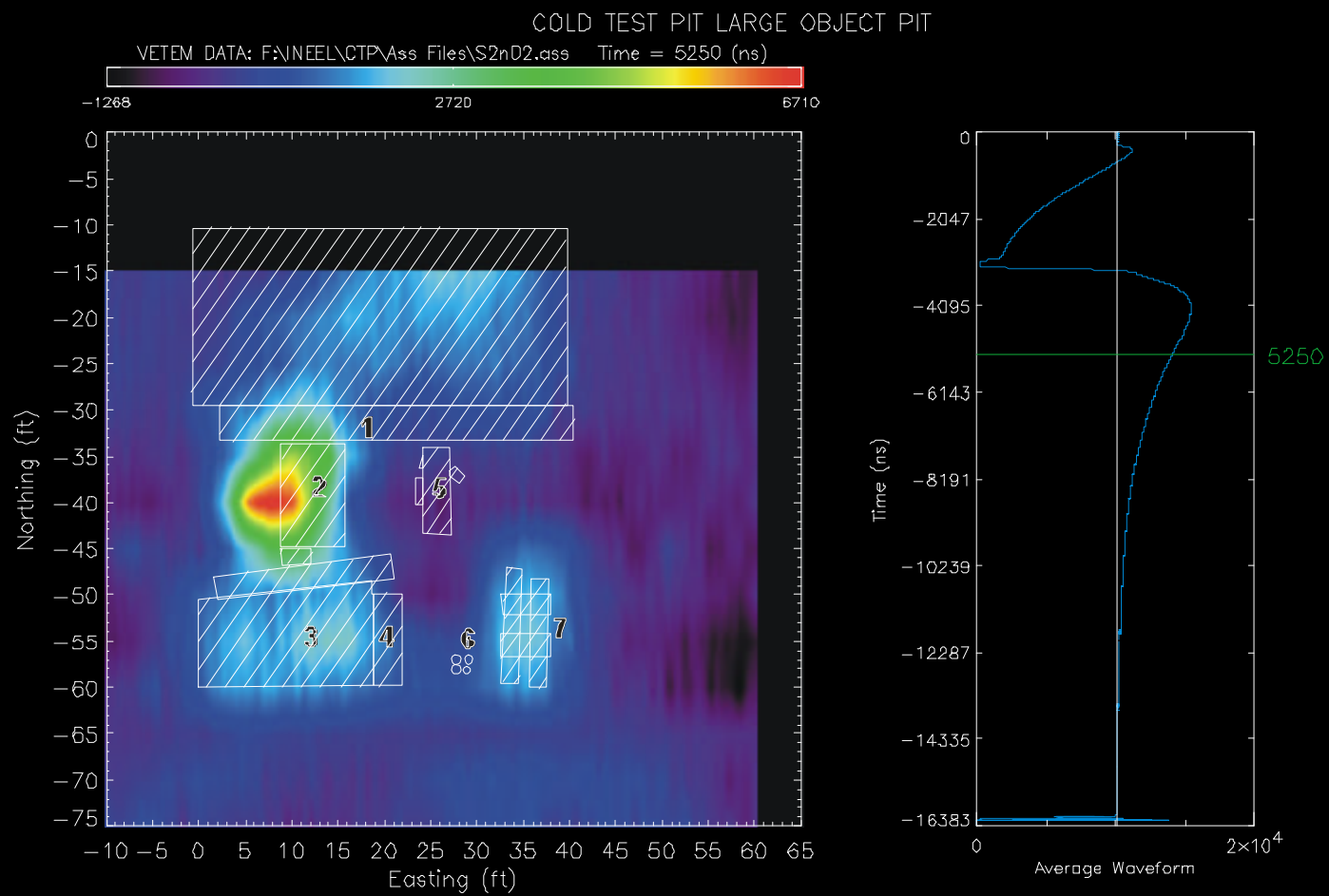
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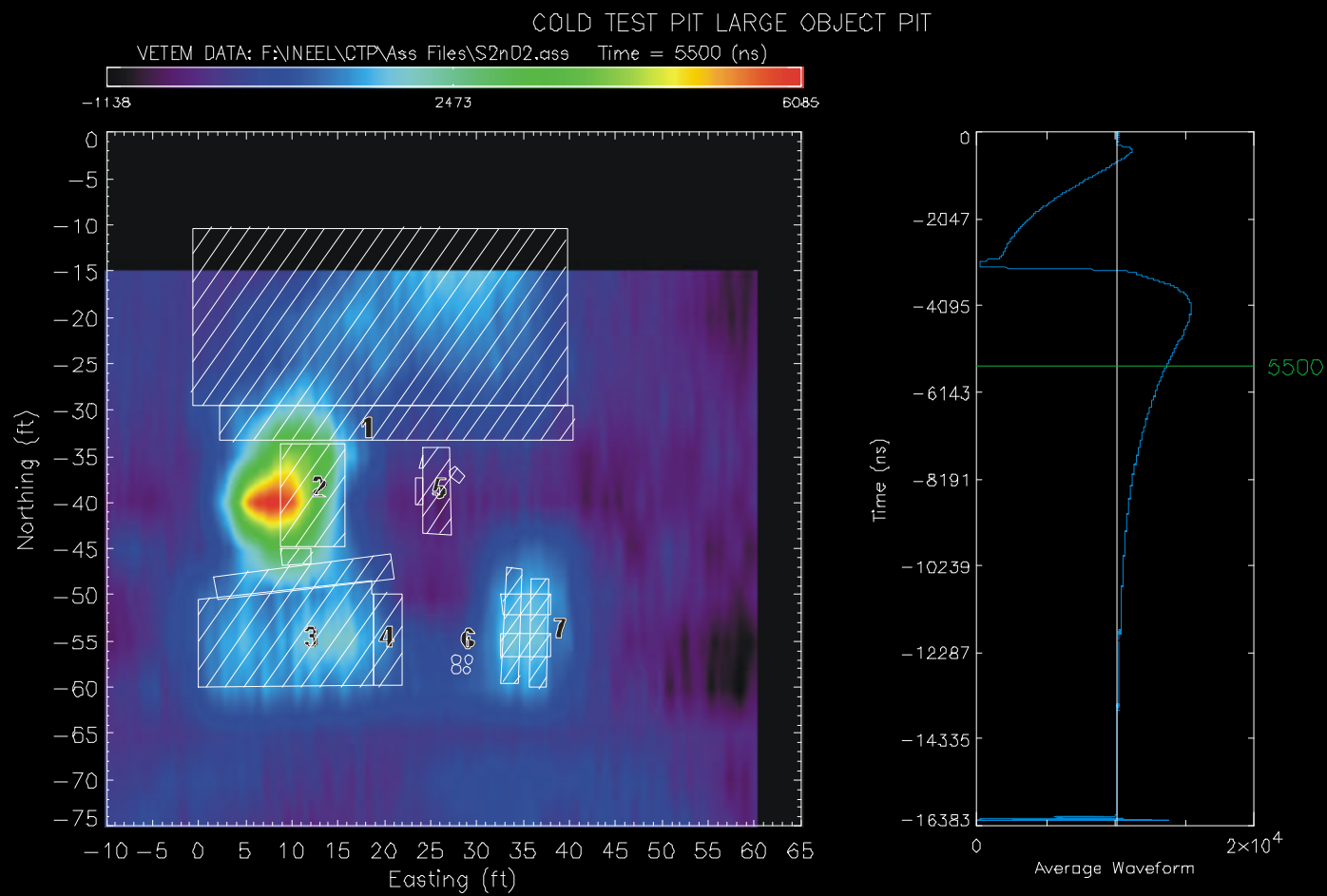


# COLD TEST PIT LARGE OBJECT PIT

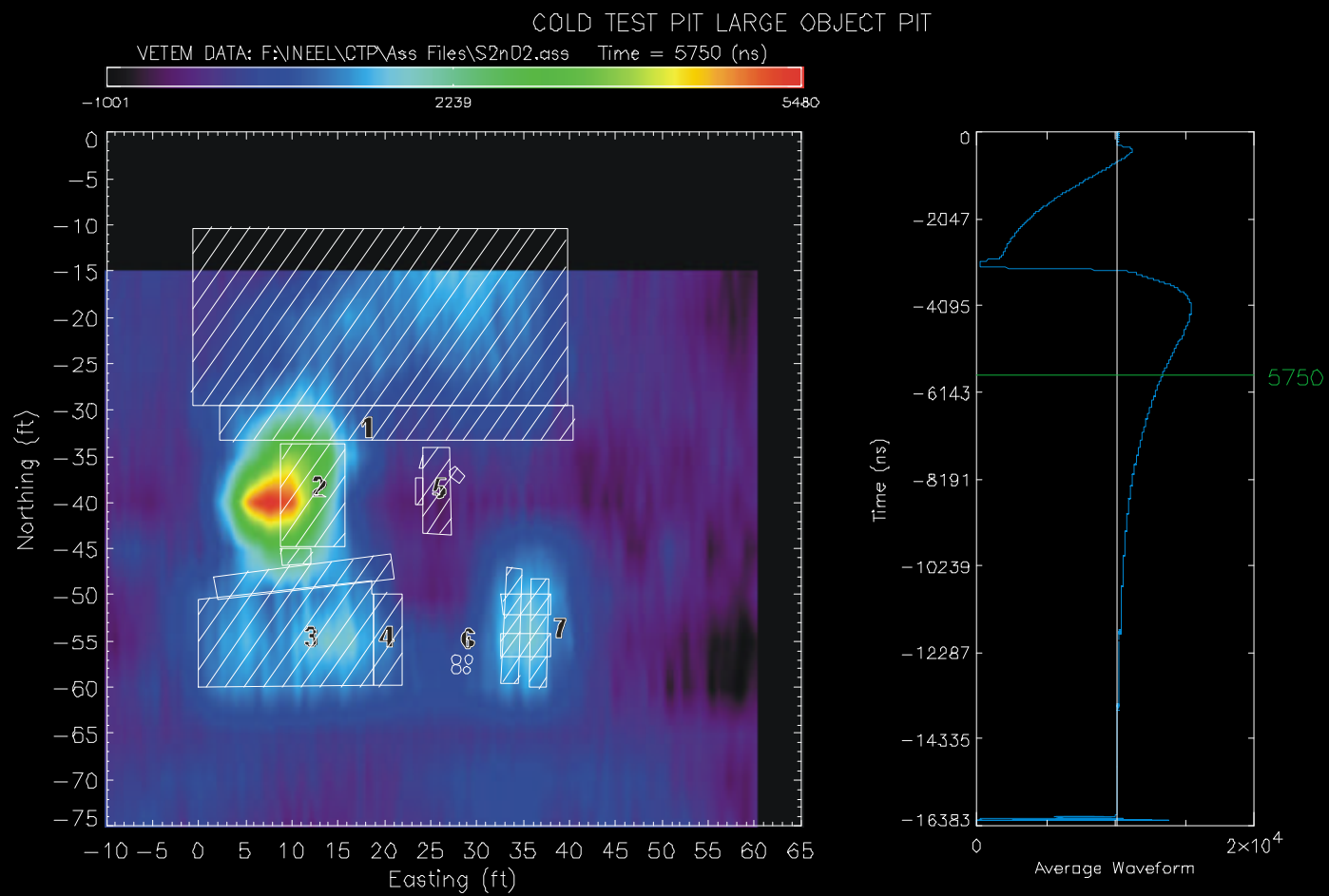
VETEM DATA: F:\NEEL\CTP\Ass Files\S2nD2.ass Time = 5000 (ns)

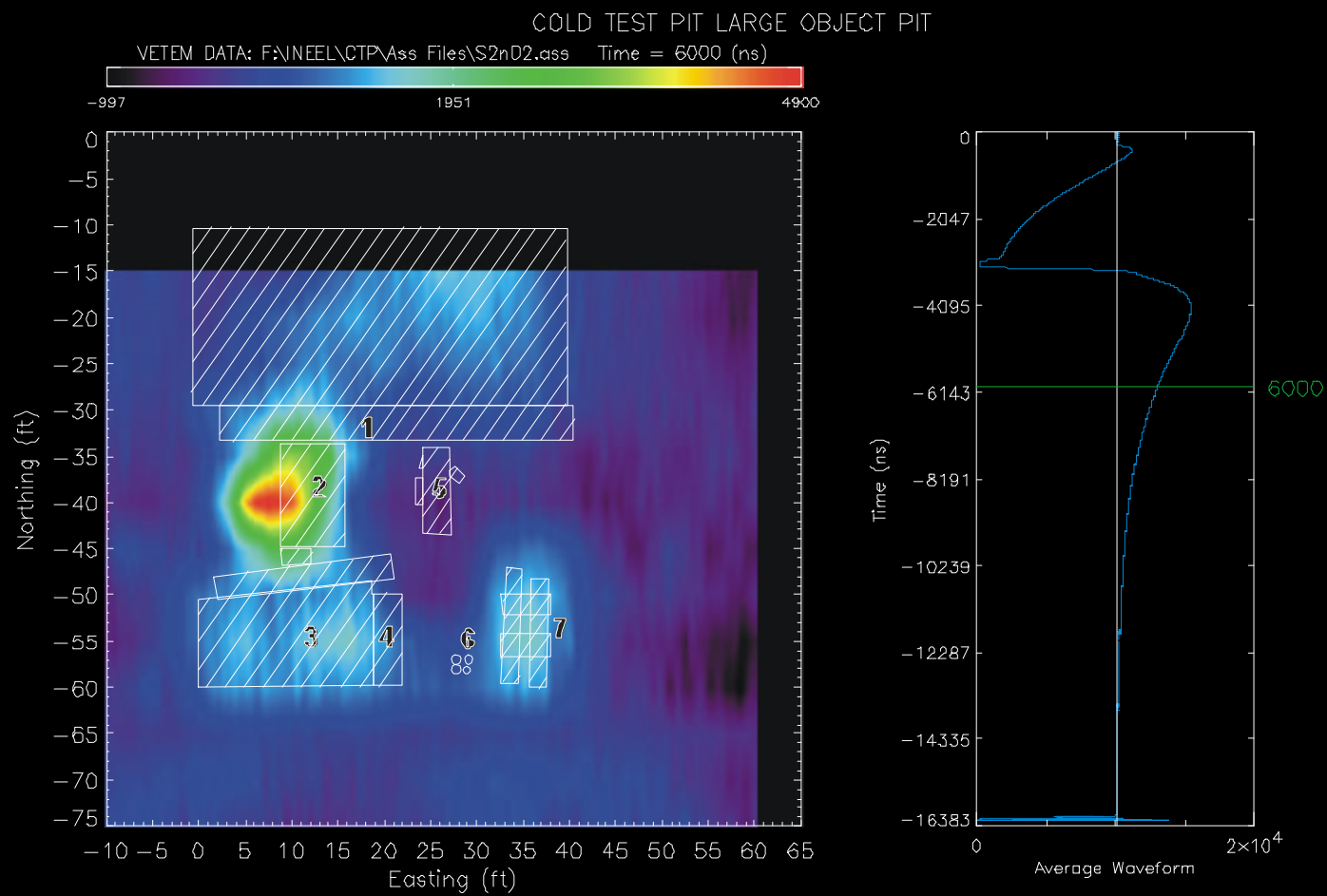


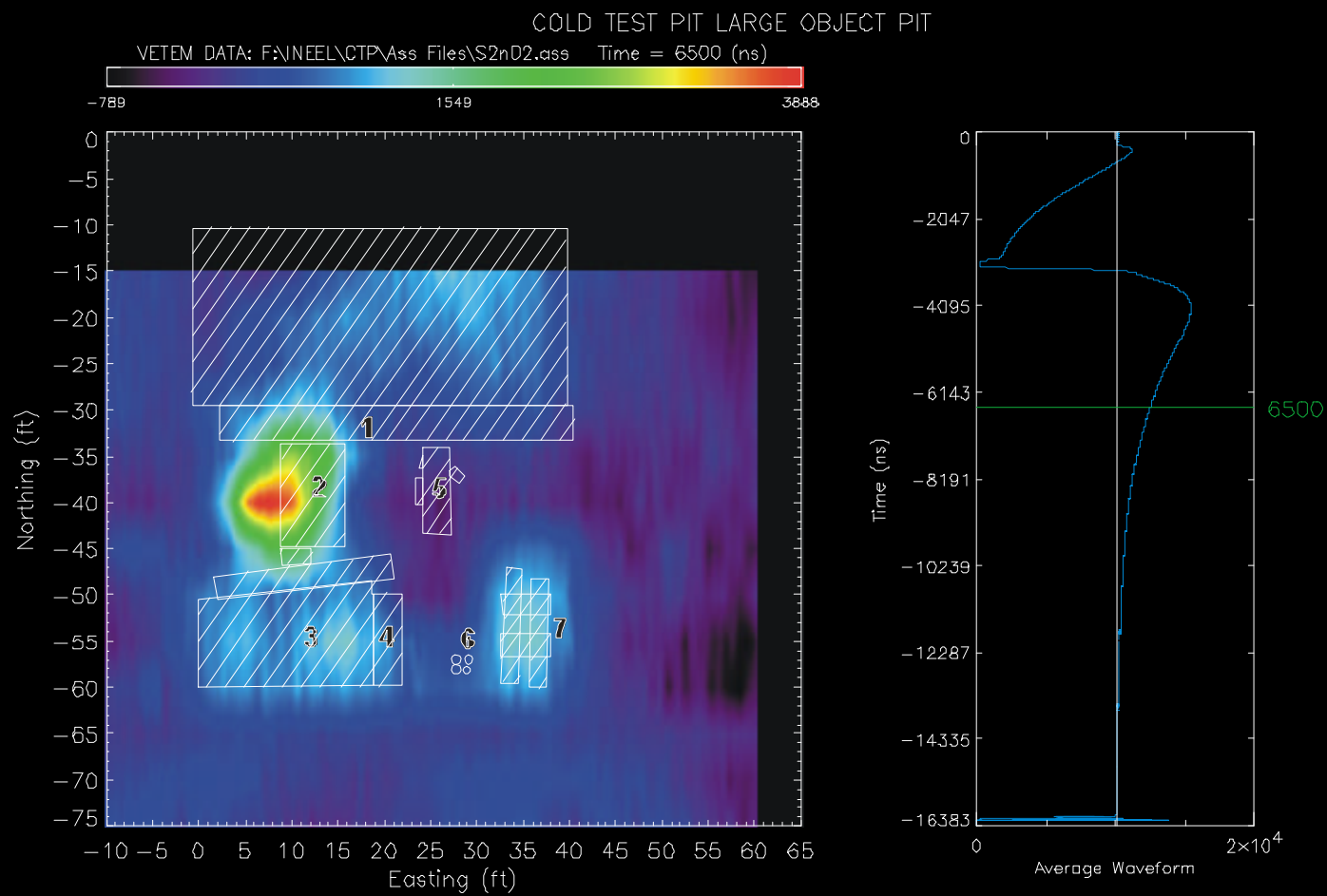


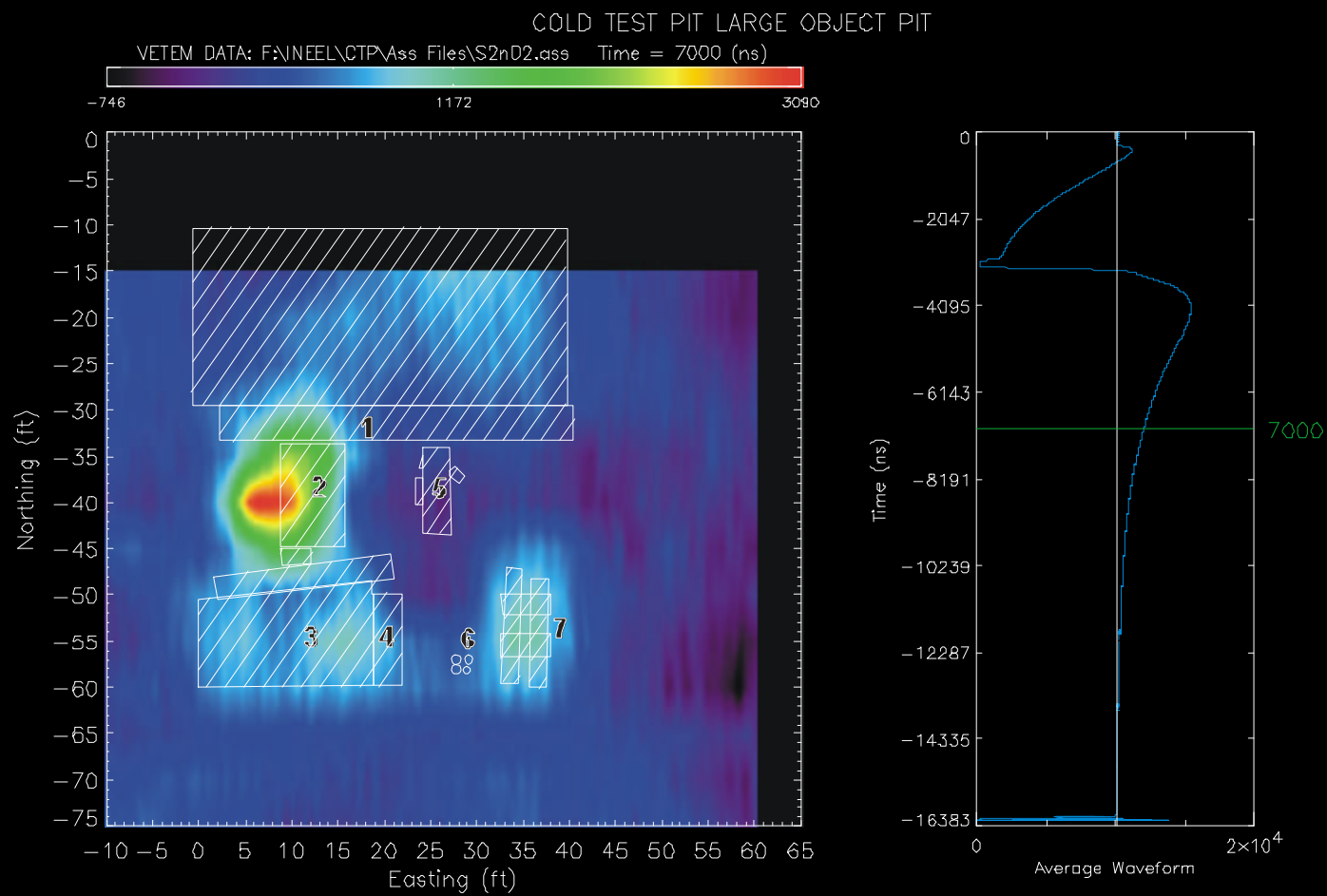


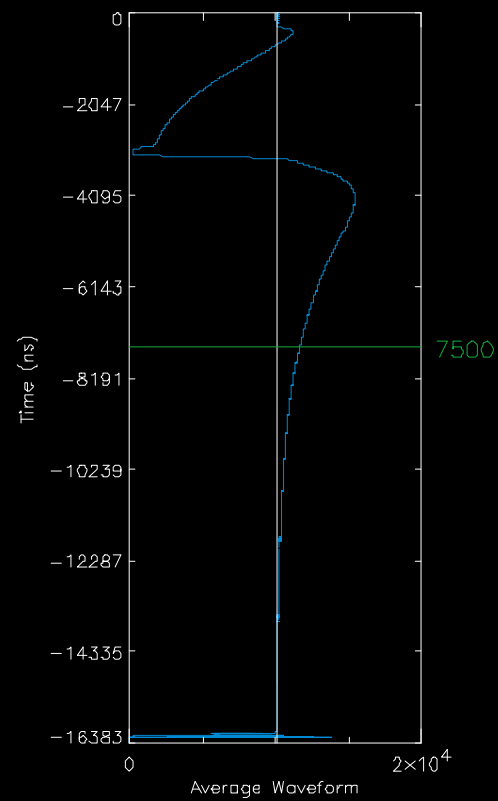
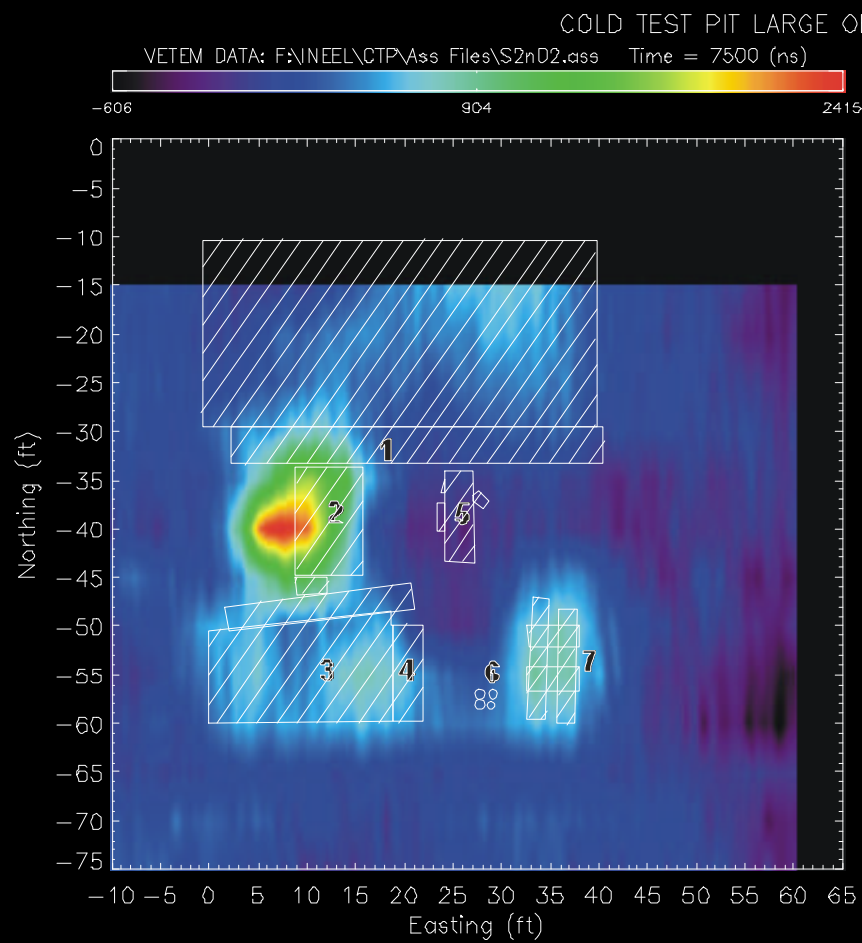


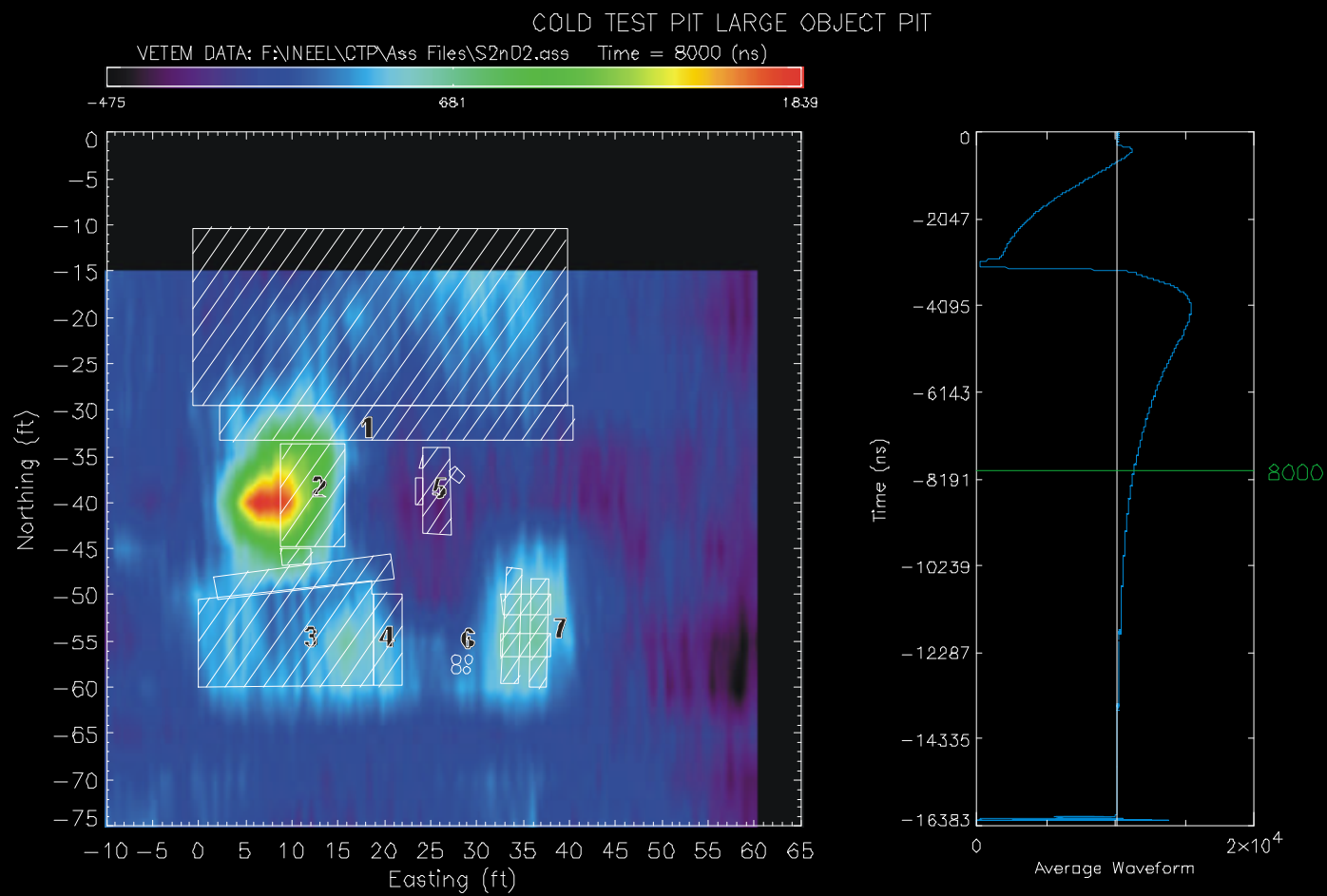


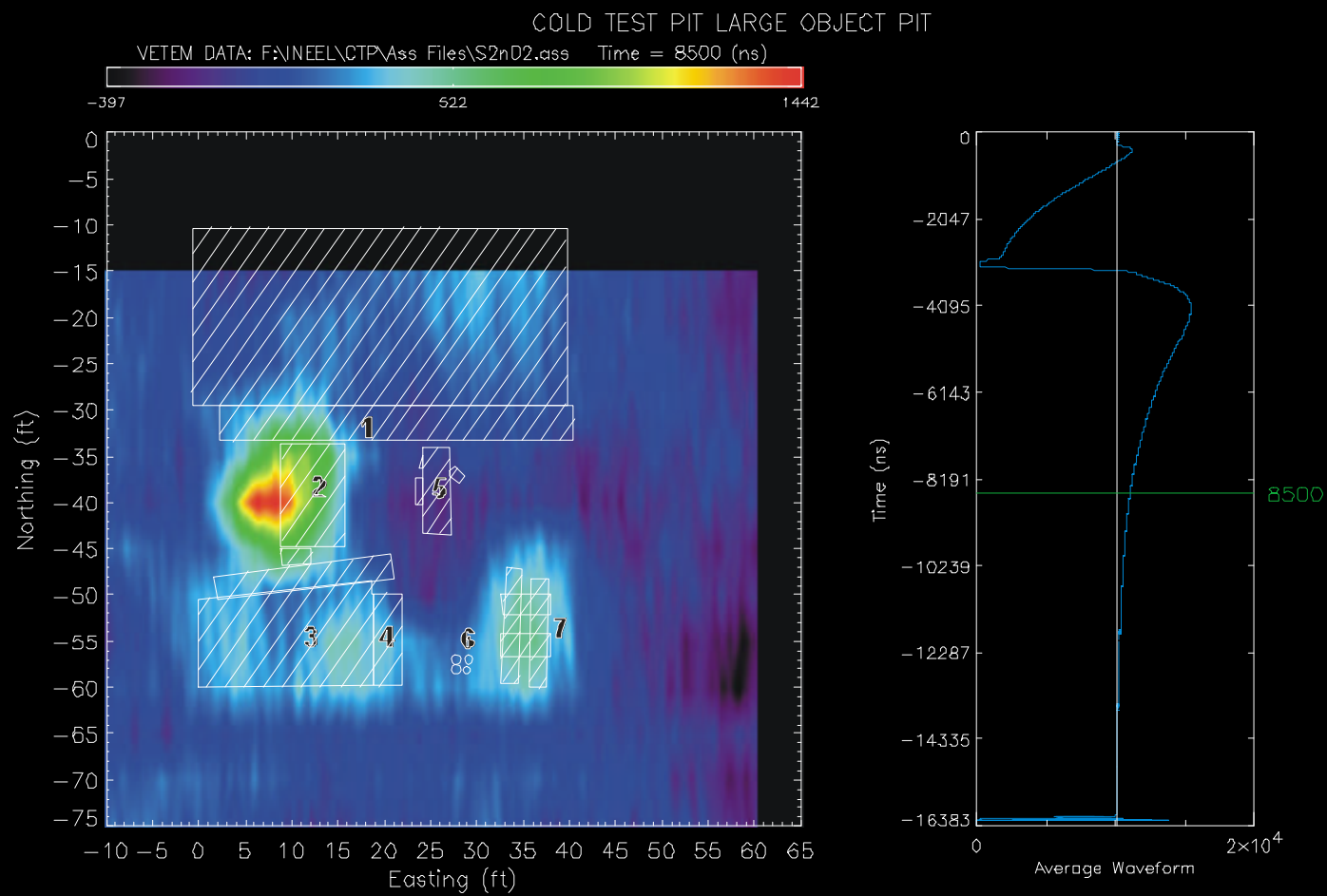








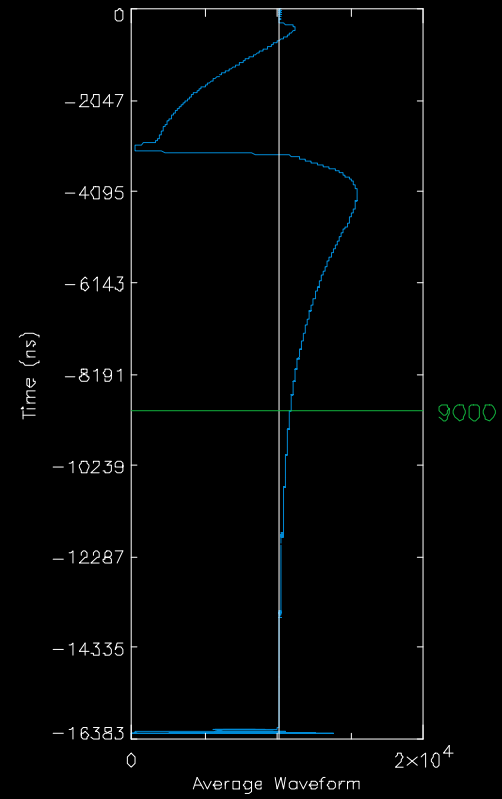
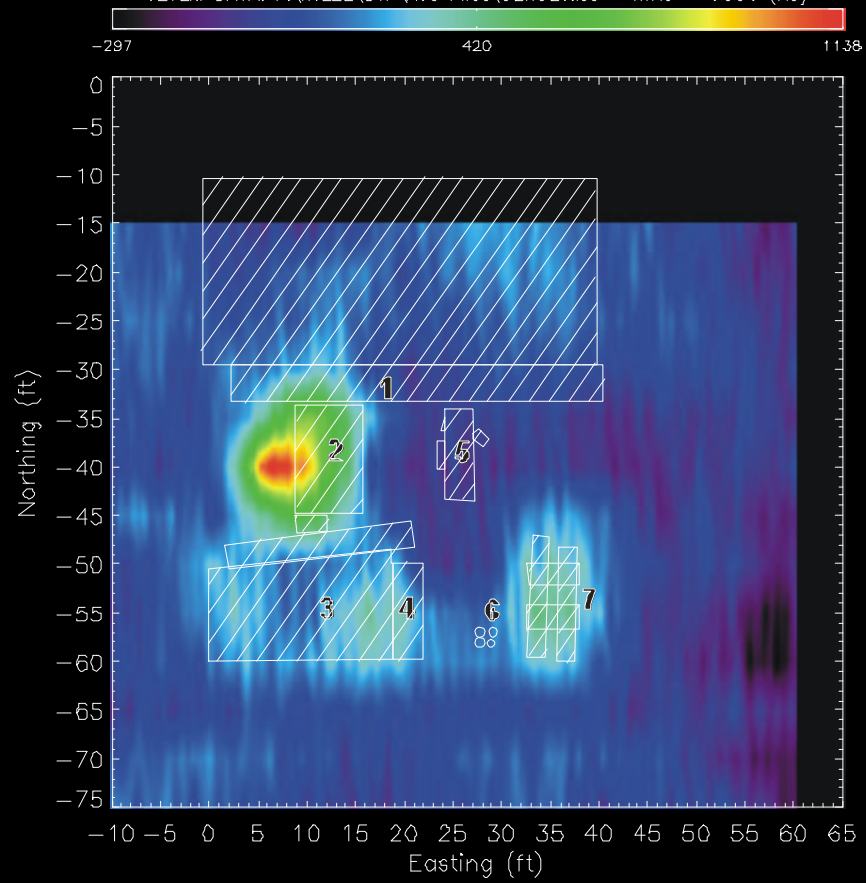


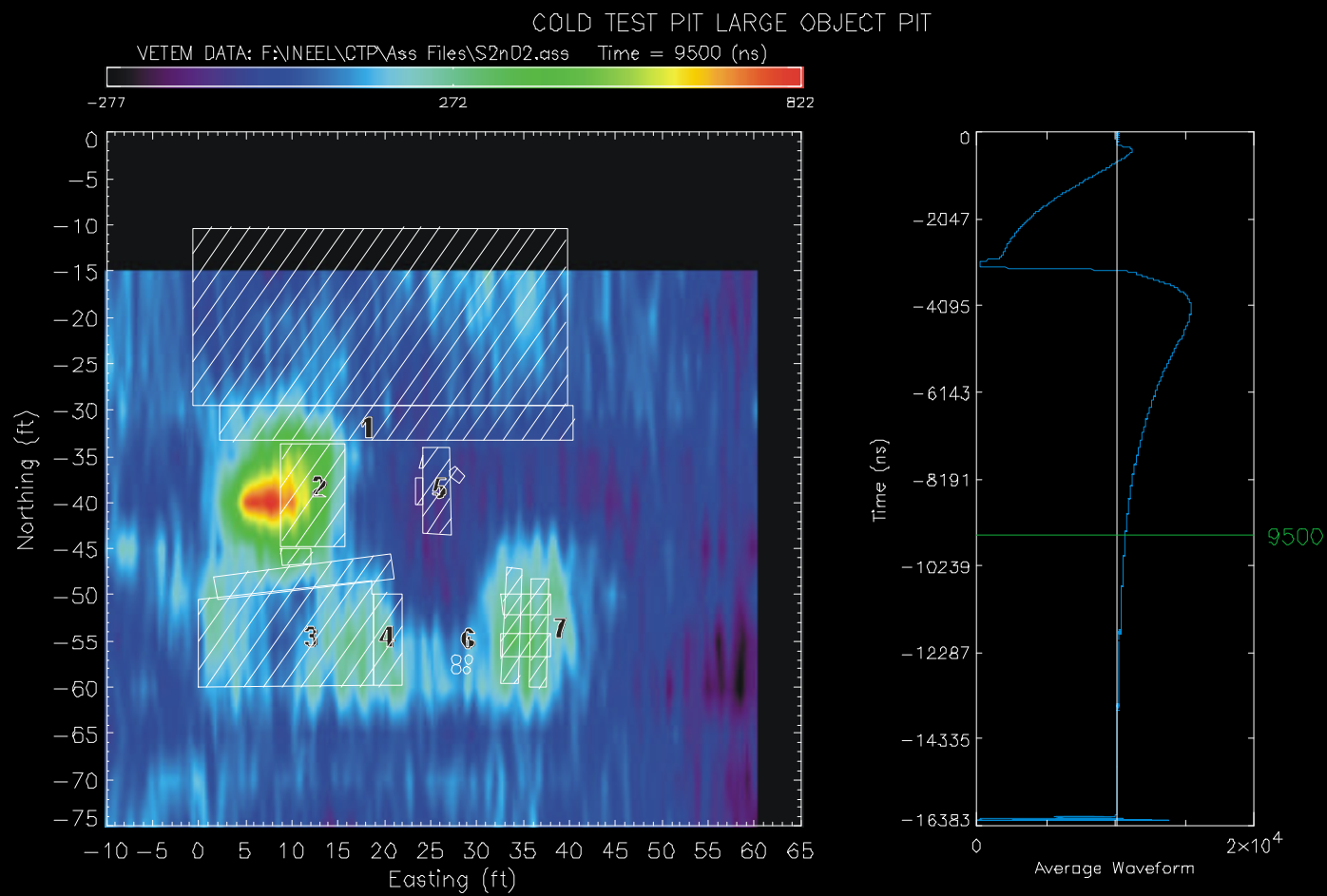


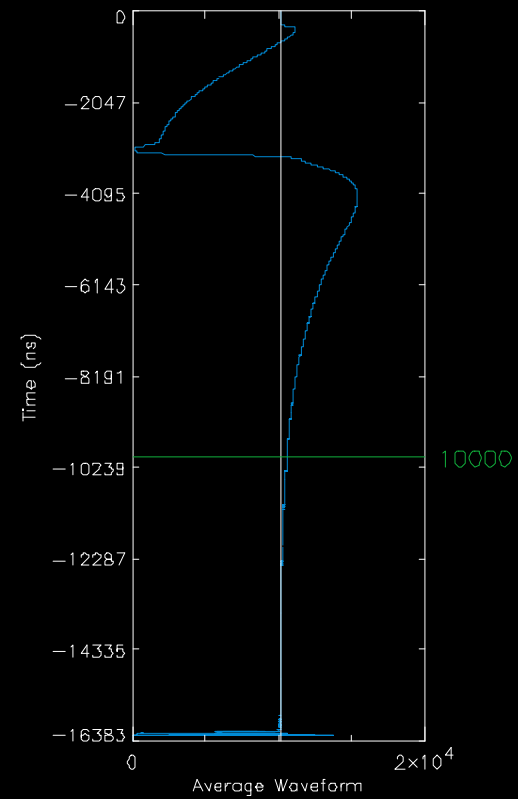
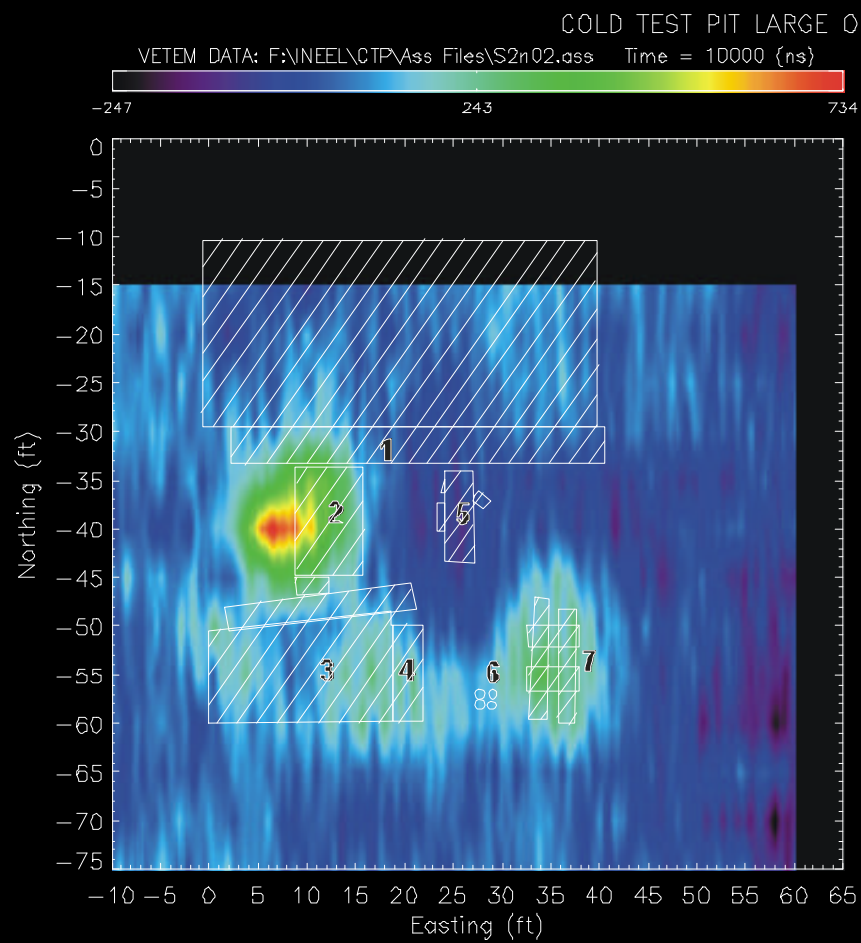


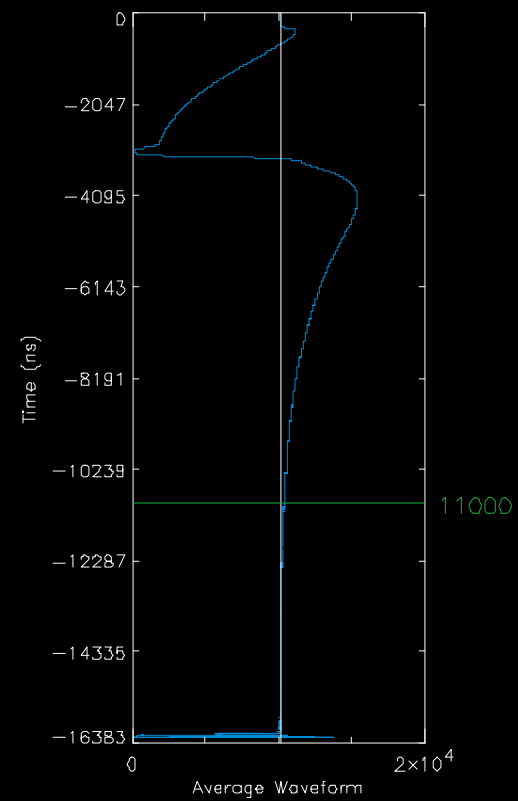
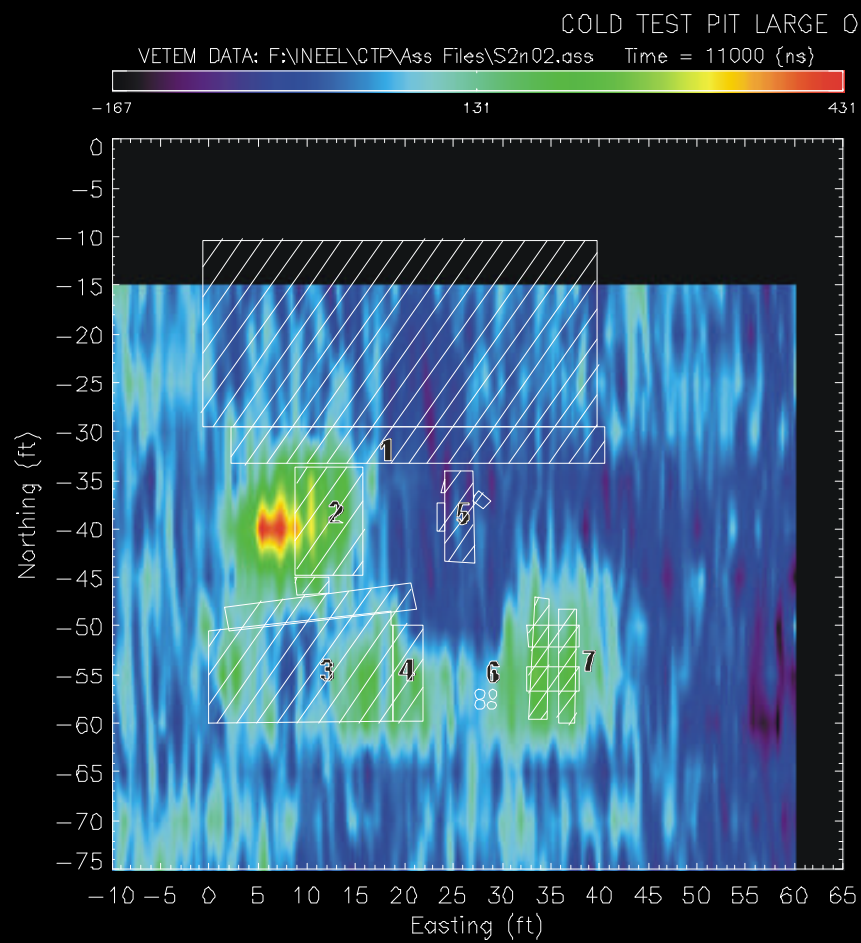
# COLD TEST PIT LARGE OBJECT PIT

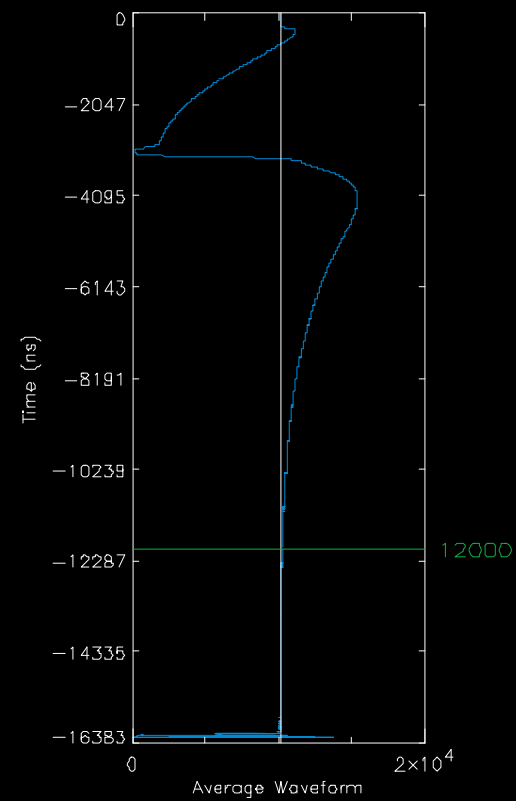
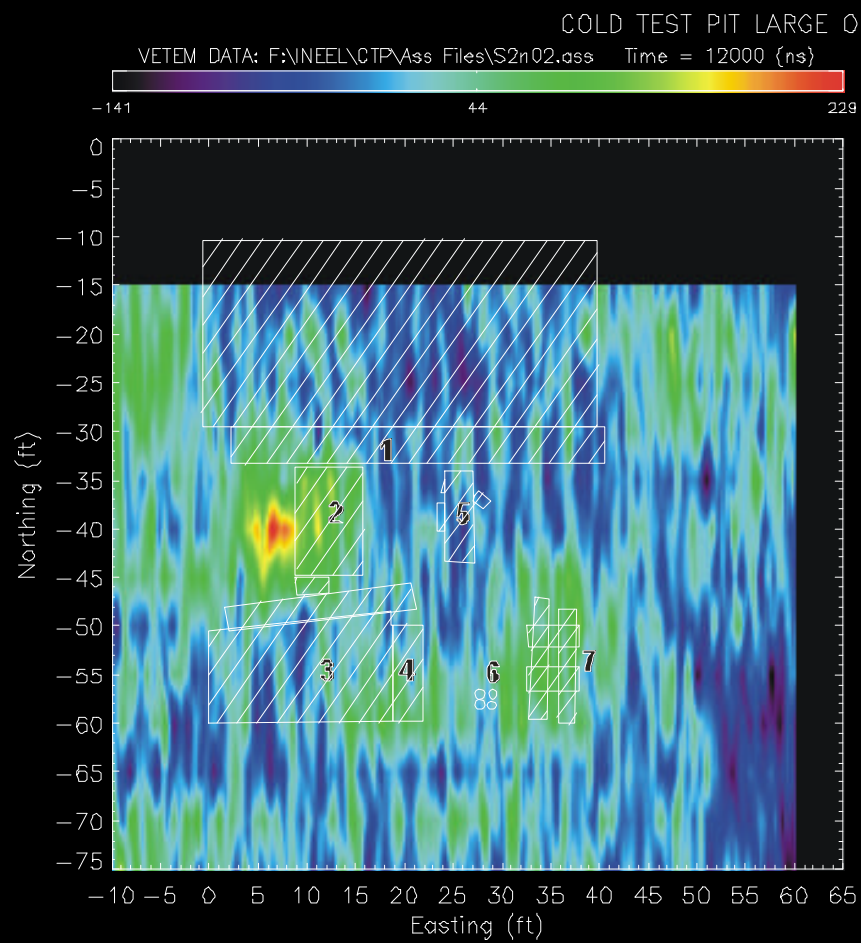
VETEM DATA: F:\NEEL\CTP\Ass Files\S2nD2.ass Time = 9000 (ns)



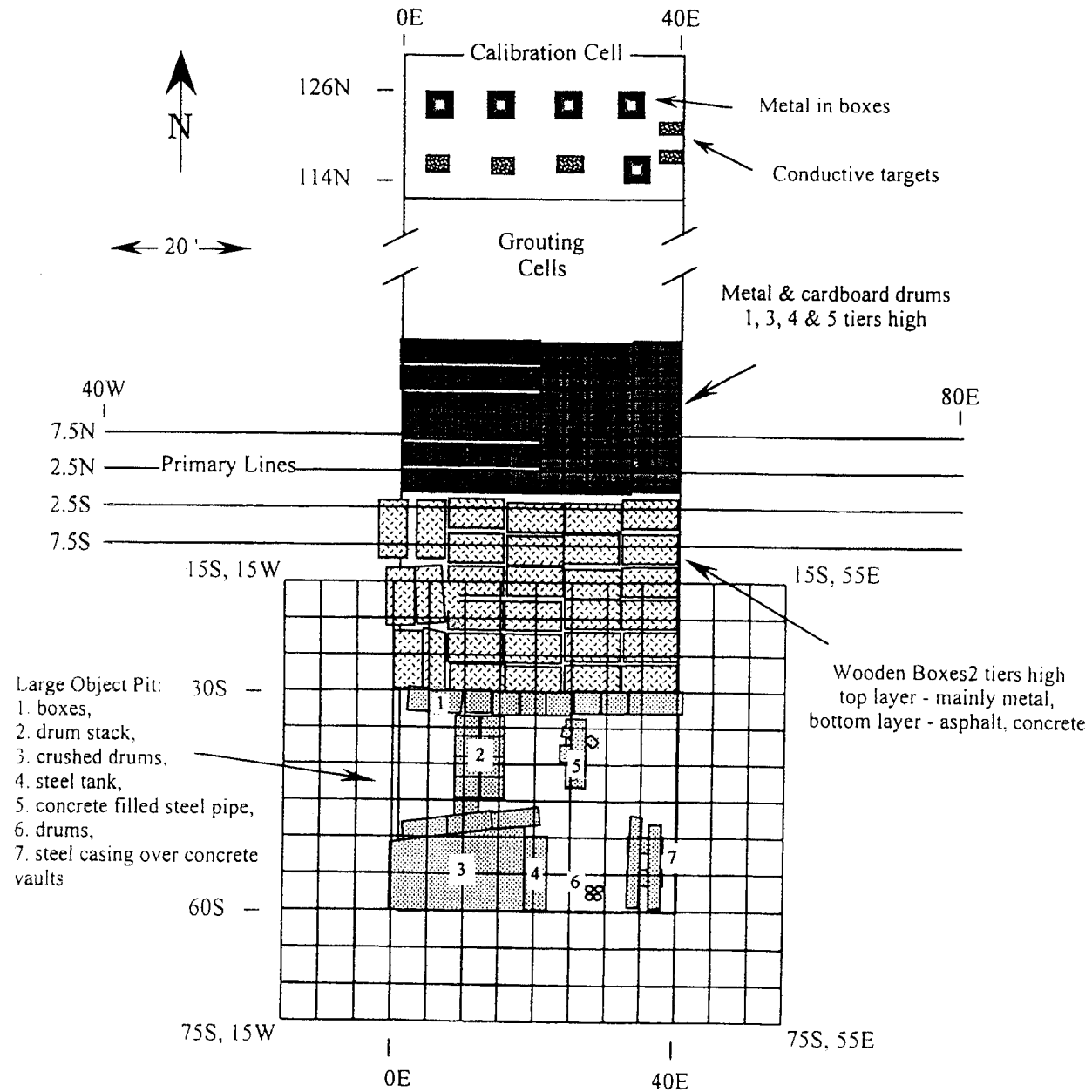




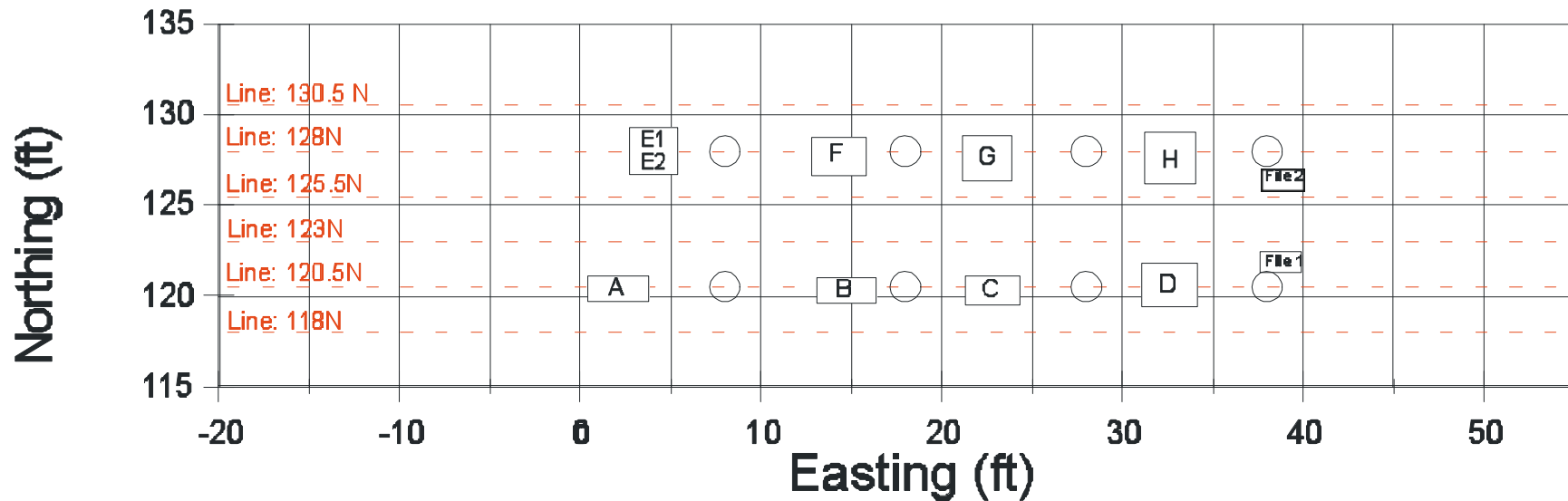




# INEEL COLD TEST PIT (CTP)



# INEEL Cold Test Pit Calibration Cell \*



Item ID	Waste form type	Dimensions	Contents
A	Drum w/liner (55 gal)	24 in. dia. x 36 in.	Concrete
B	Plastic drum (30 gal)	18 in. dia. X 29 in.	Salt water
C	Drum w/liner (55 gal)	24 in. dia. x 36 in.	Foam
D	Wood box	2 x 4 x 4 ft.	Wood and Paper
E	Wood boxes (2, stacked)	2 x 4 x 4 ft. (each)	E1=Wood and Paper E2=Ferrous metals
F	Wood box	2 x 4 x 4 ft.	Mixed metals
G	Wood box	2 x 4 x 4 ft.	Nonferrous metals
H	Wood box	2 x 4 x 4 ft.	Dense-pack metal
File 1	Five-drawer metal file cabinet	14 x 28 x 57 in.	Empty
File 2	Five-drawer metal file cabinet	14 x 28 x 57 in.	Empty

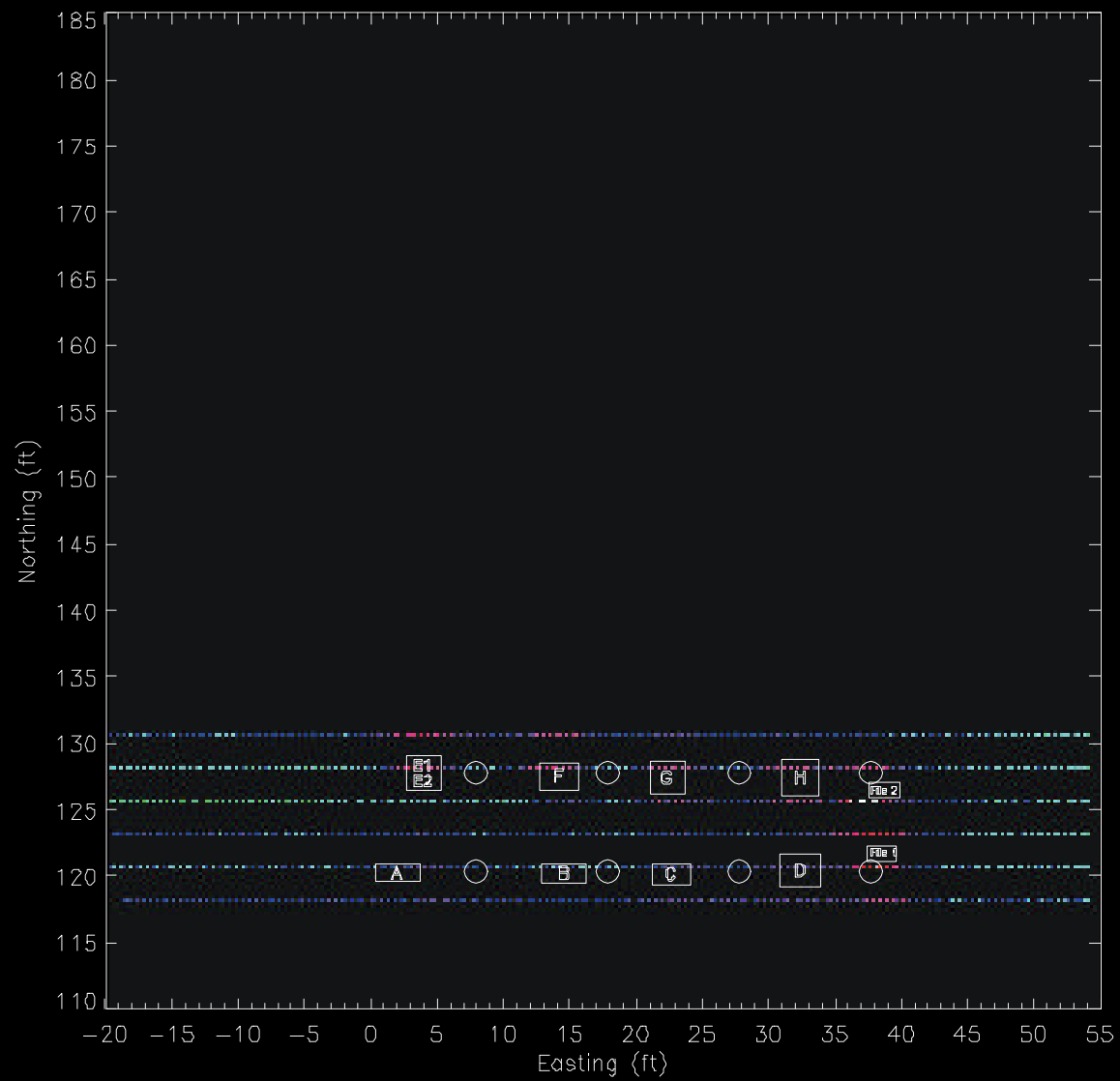
\* Based on EG&G Idaho, Inc. FORM EGG-2631/(Rev. 01-92)



# *Comments on Calibration Cell results*

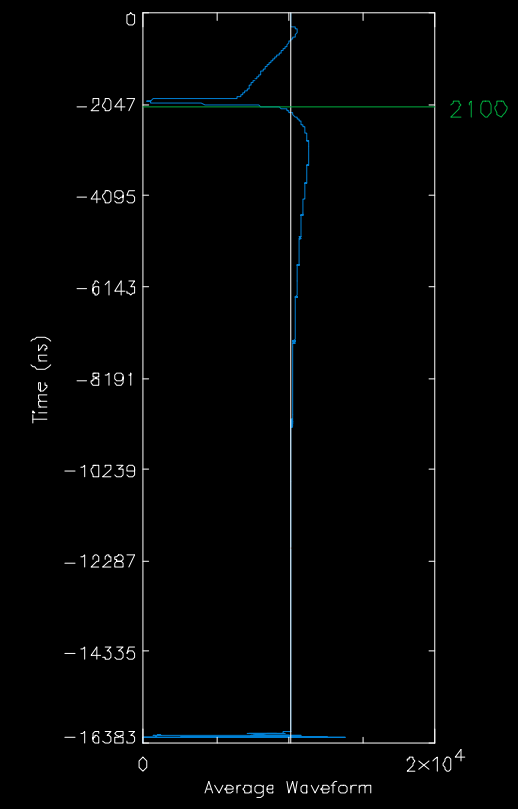
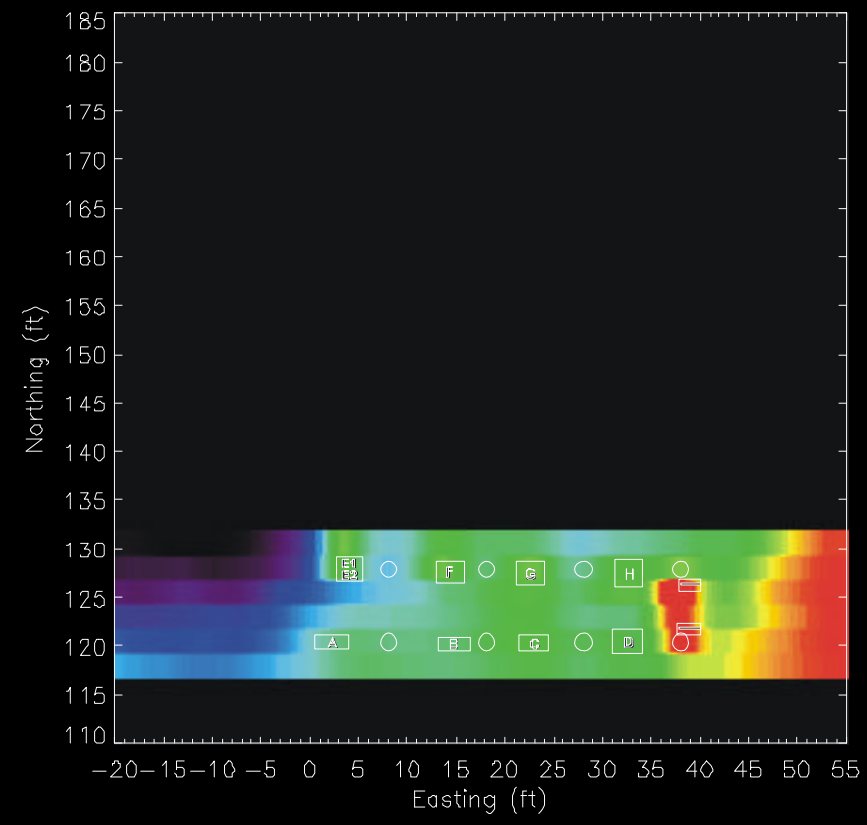
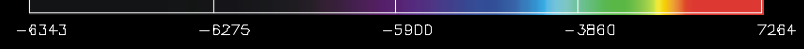
- Used only the overlapped antennas during this test.
- In this case we start after Tx turnoff, so no color inversion.
- Note that at early times there is an indication of an apparent high conductivity region at the eastern end. This dies out at later times while responses to metal buried targets persist. This early time response appears to be geologic in origin.
- Strongest responses from buried file cabinets. Responses appear merged at early time but separate at later times.

Cold Test Pit  
Calibration Cell  
Traverse Lines



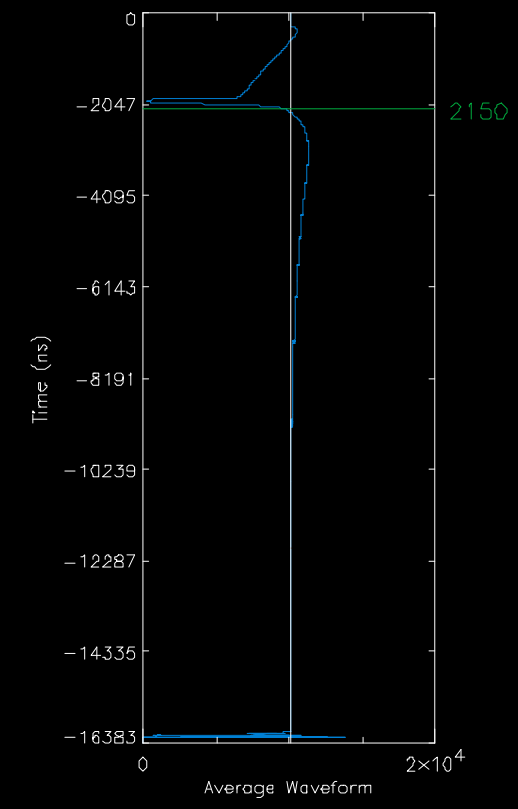
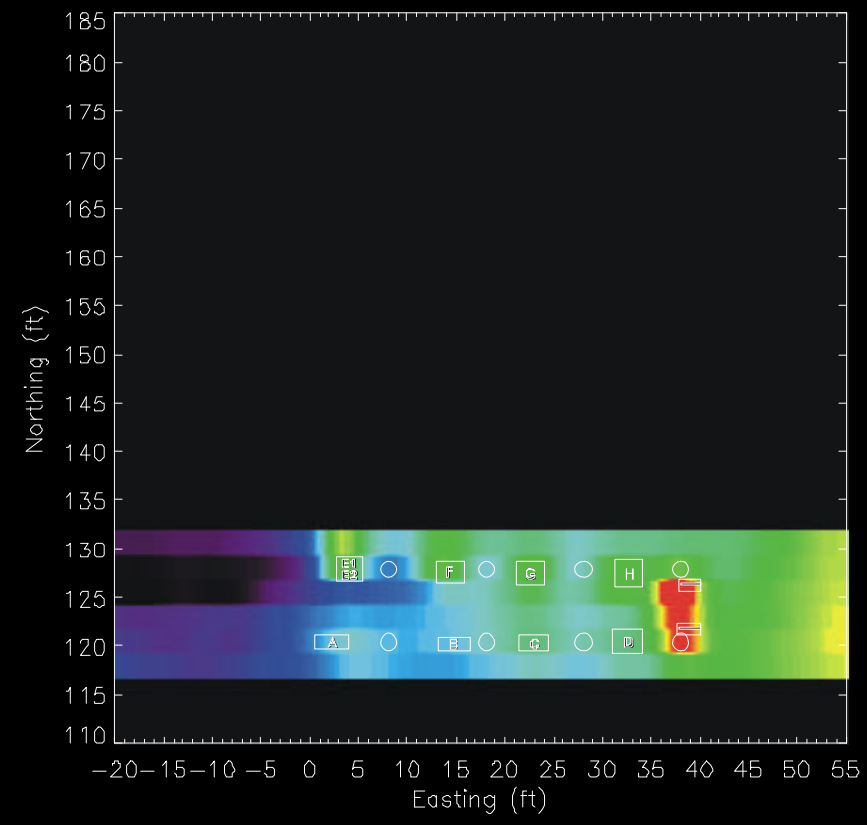
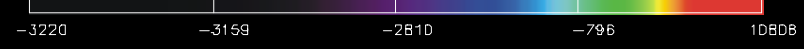
COLD TEST PIT CALIBRATION CELL

VETEM DATA: F:\NHEEL\GTP\CalCell\0n\Calcell.Dn.ass Time = 2100 (ns)



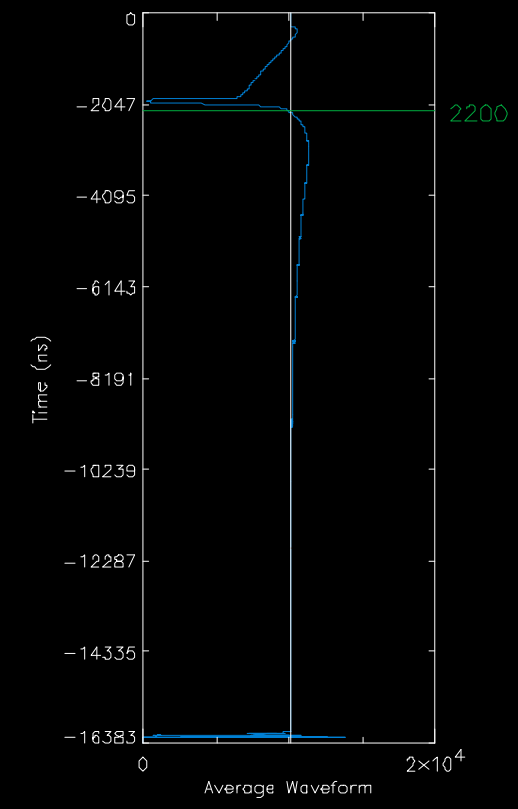
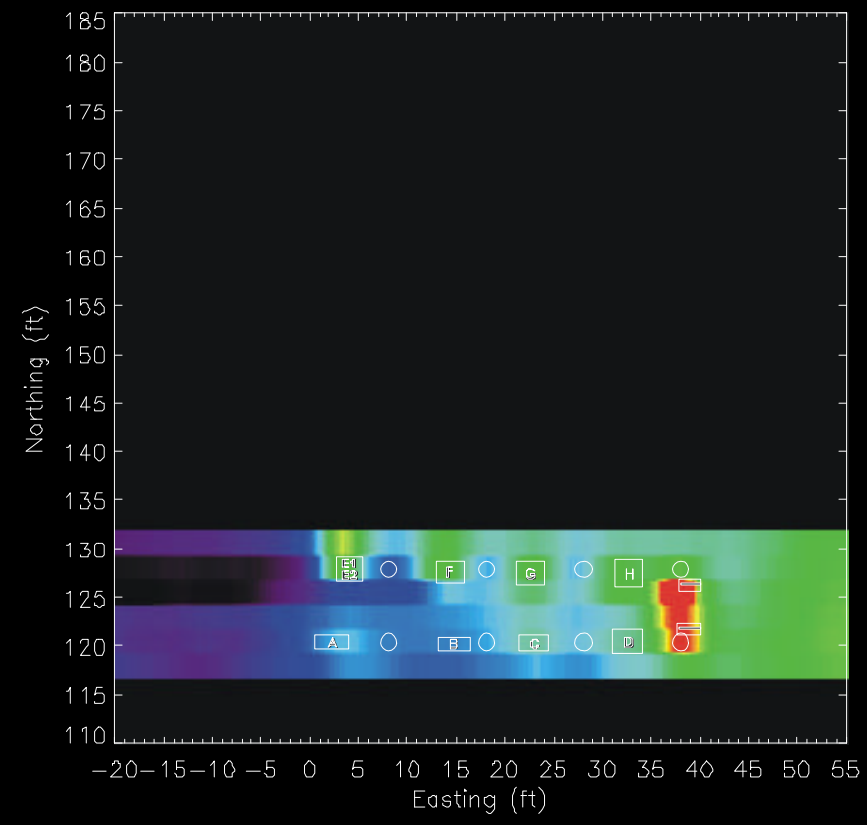
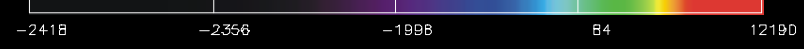
COLD TEST PIT CALIBRATION CELL

VETEM DATA: F:\NIEEL\GTP\CalCell\0n\Calcell.Dn.ass Time = 2150 (ns)



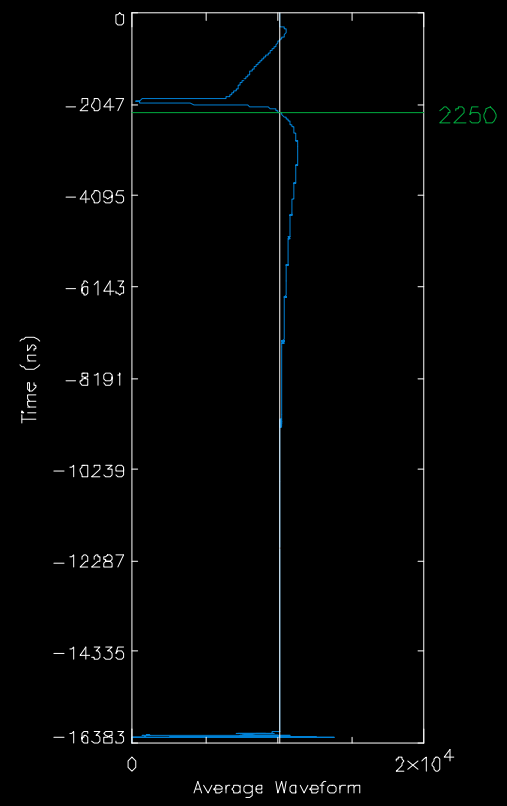
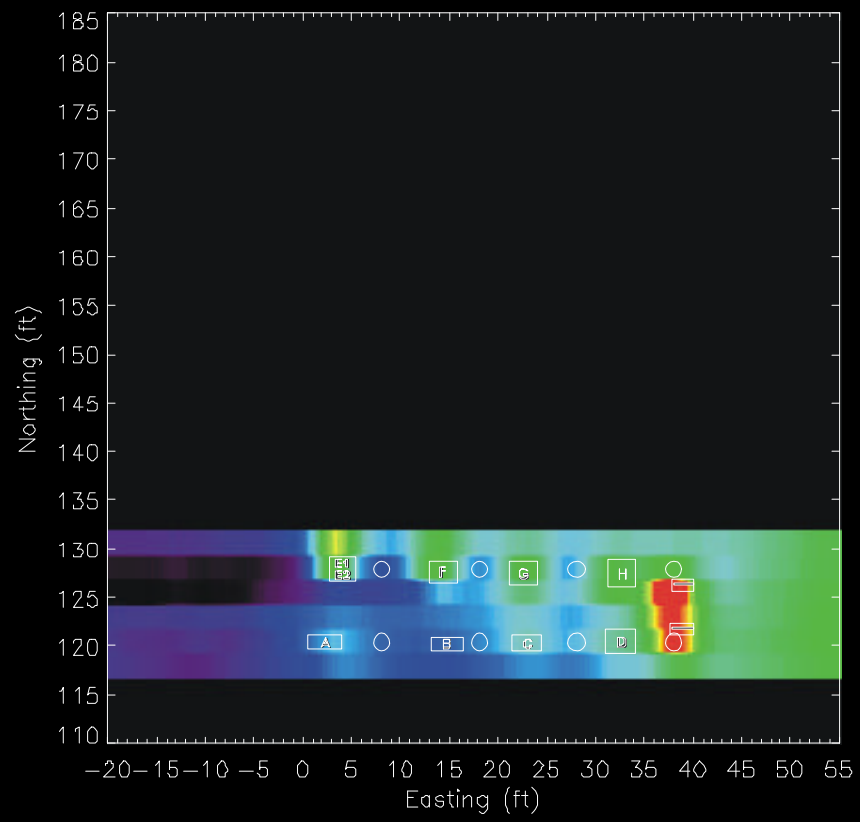
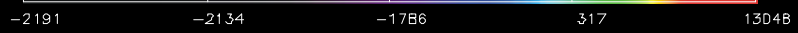
COLD TEST PIT CALIBRATION CELL

VETEM DATA: F:\NIEEL\GTP\CalCell\0n\Calcell.Dn.ass Time = 2200 (ns)



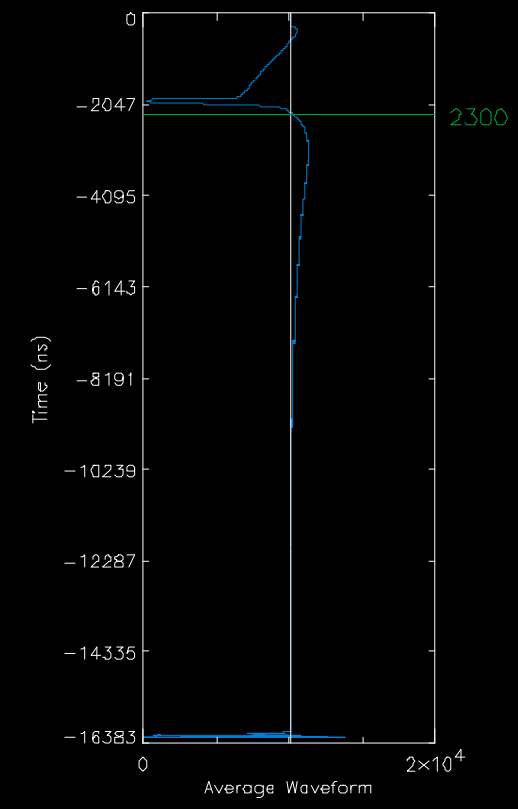
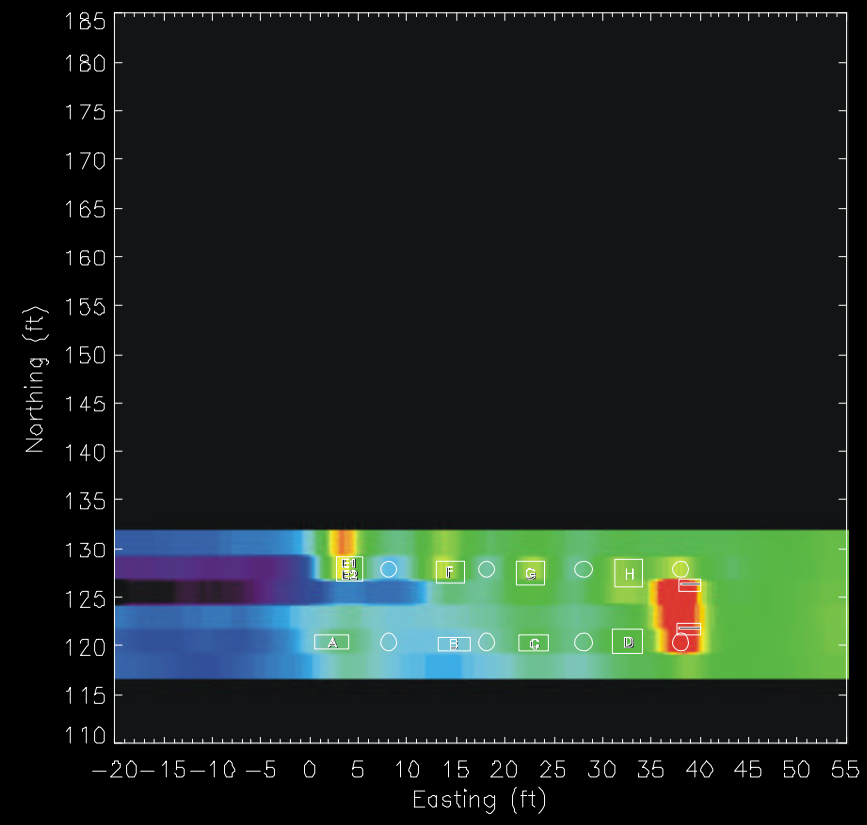
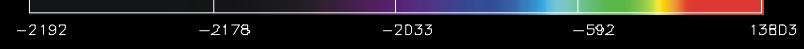
COLD TEST PIT CALIBRATION CELL

VETEM DATA: F:\NIEEL\GTP\CalCell\0n\Calcell.Dn.ass Time = 2250 (ns)



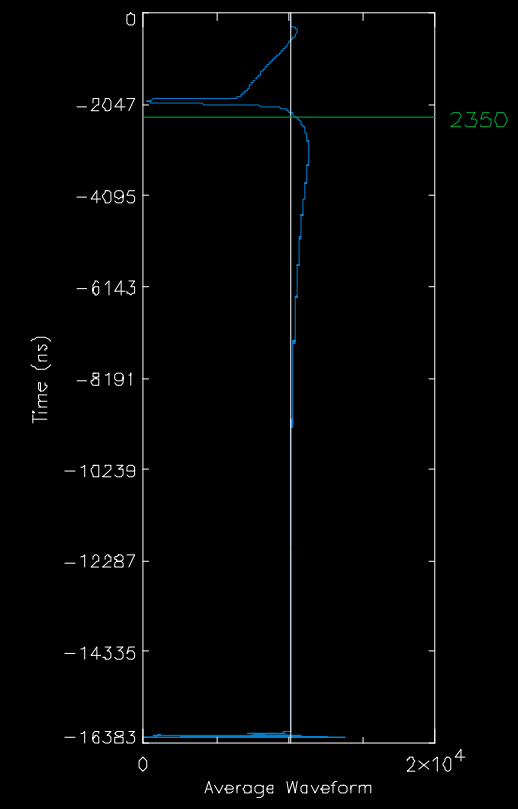
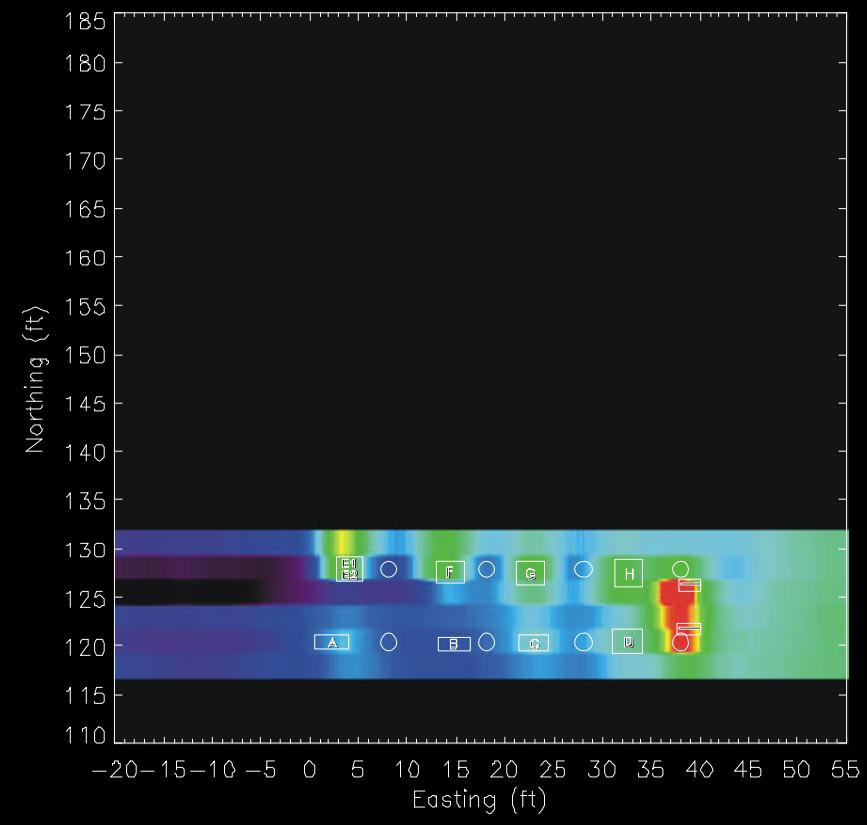
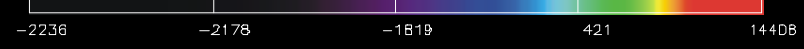
COLD TEST PIT CALIBRATION CELL

VETEM DATA: F:\NEEL\GTP\CalCell\0n\Calcell.Dn.ass Time = 2300 (ns)



COLD TEST PIT CALIBRATION CELL

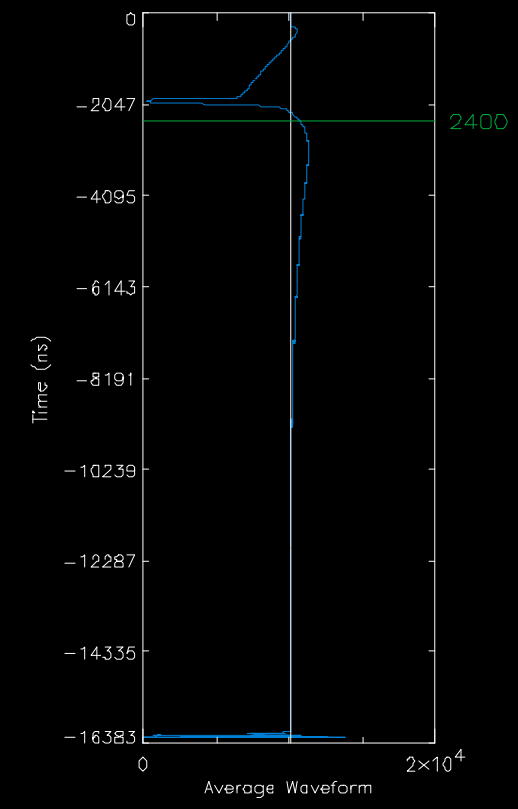
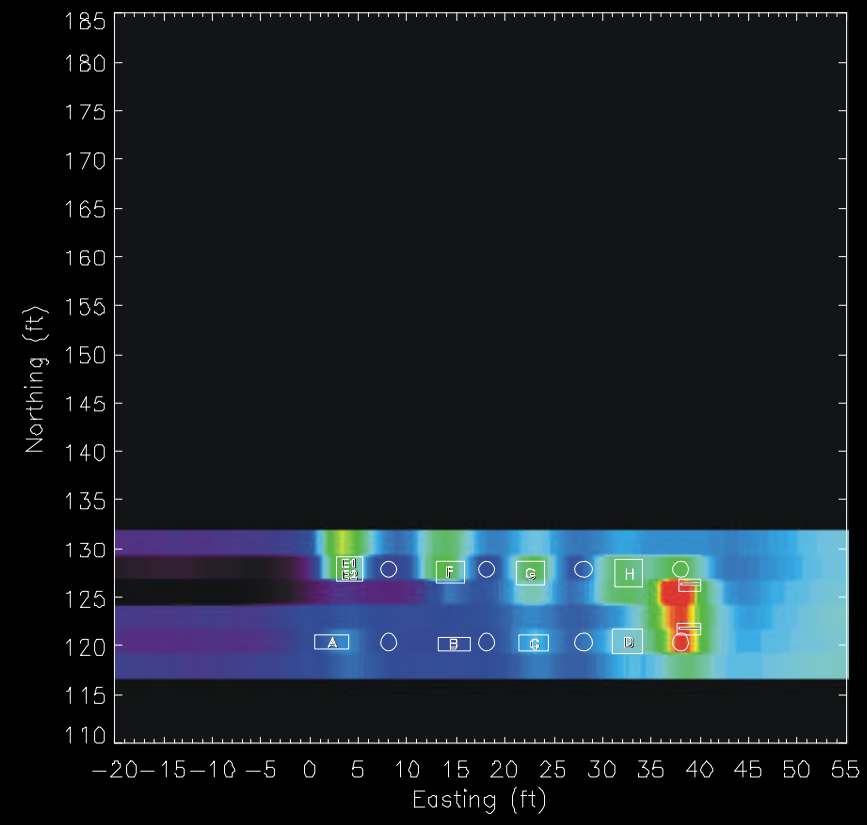
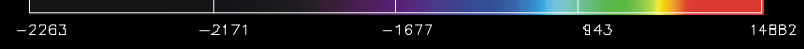
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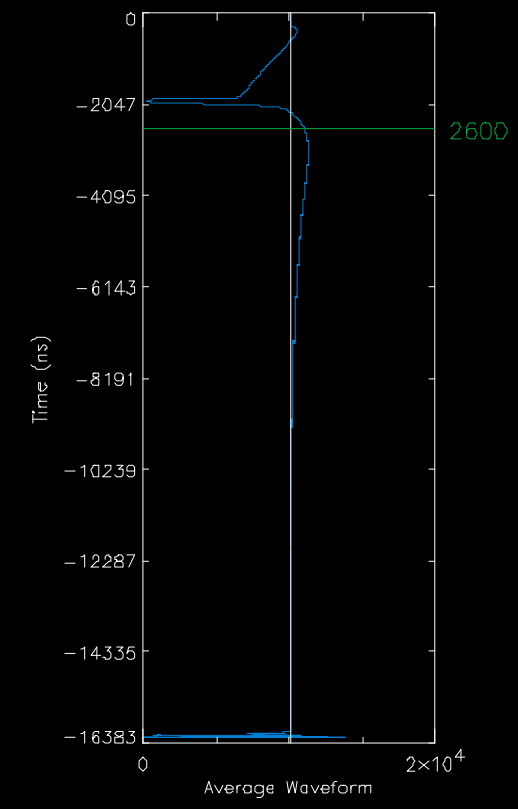
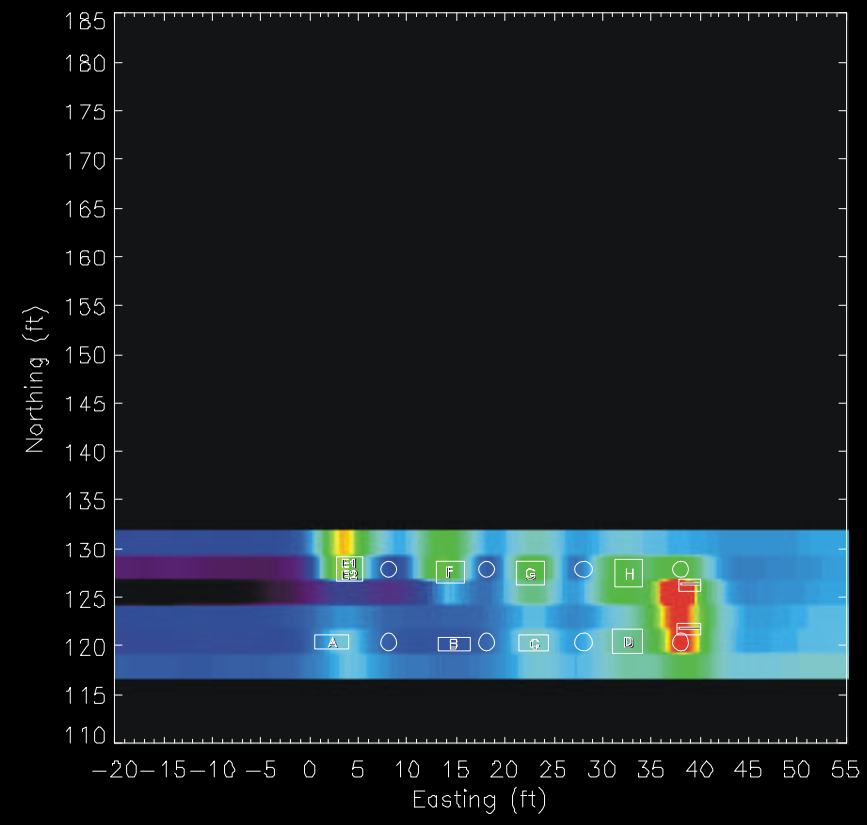
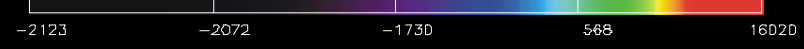
COLD TEST PIT CALIBRATION CELL

VETEM DATA: F:\NIEEL\GTP\CalCell\0n\Calcell.Dn.ass Time = 2400 (ns)



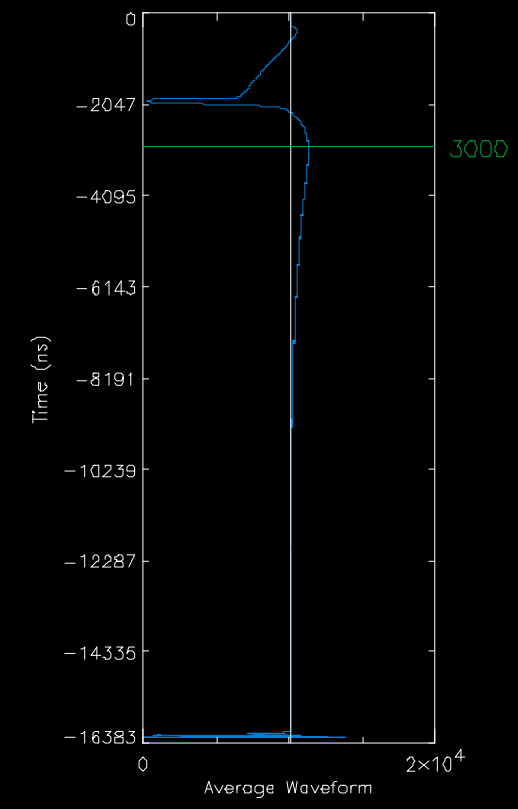
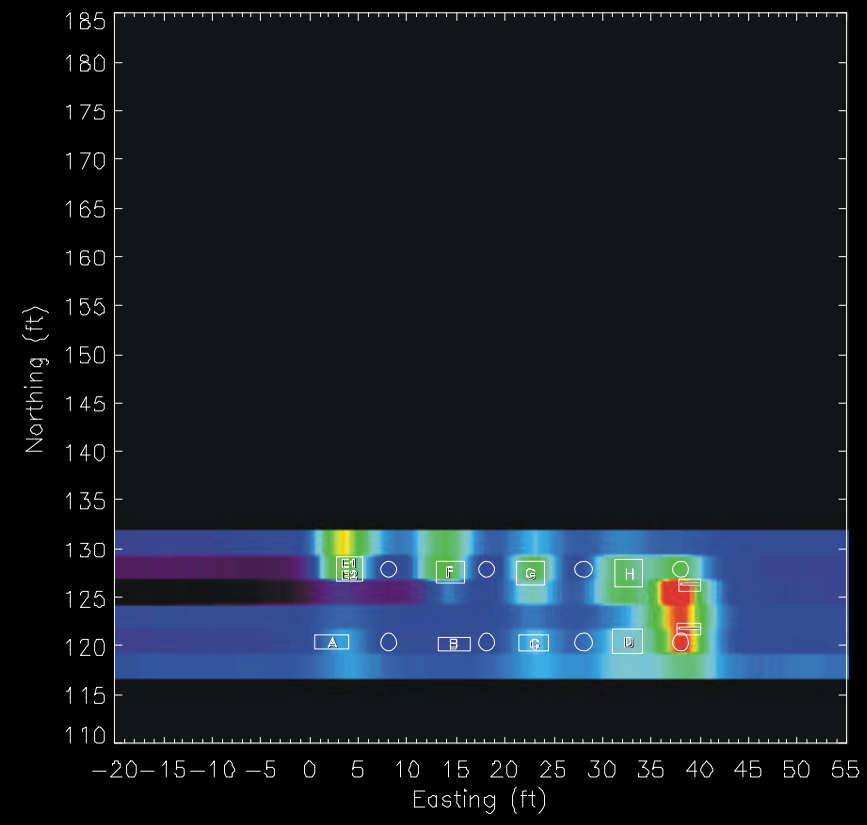
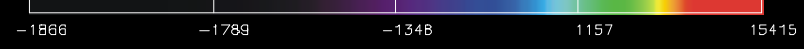
COLD TEST PIT CALIBRATION CELL

VETEM DATA: F:\NEEL\GTP\CalCell\0n\Calcell.Dn.ass Time = 2600 (ns)



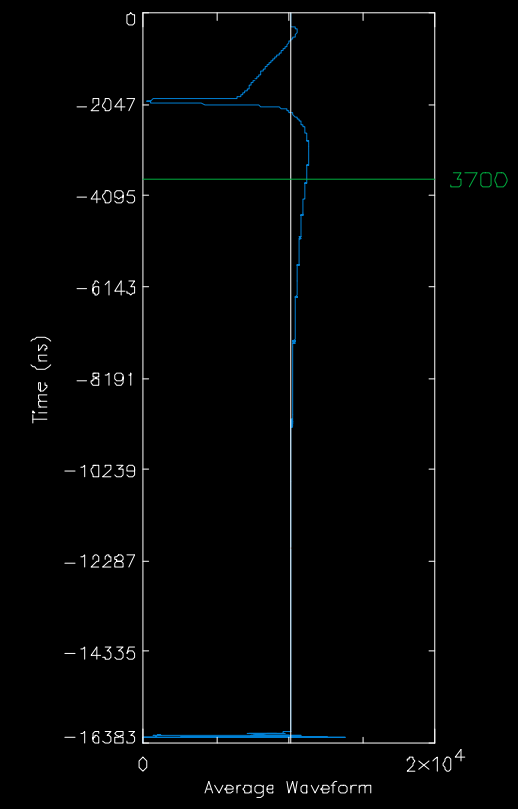
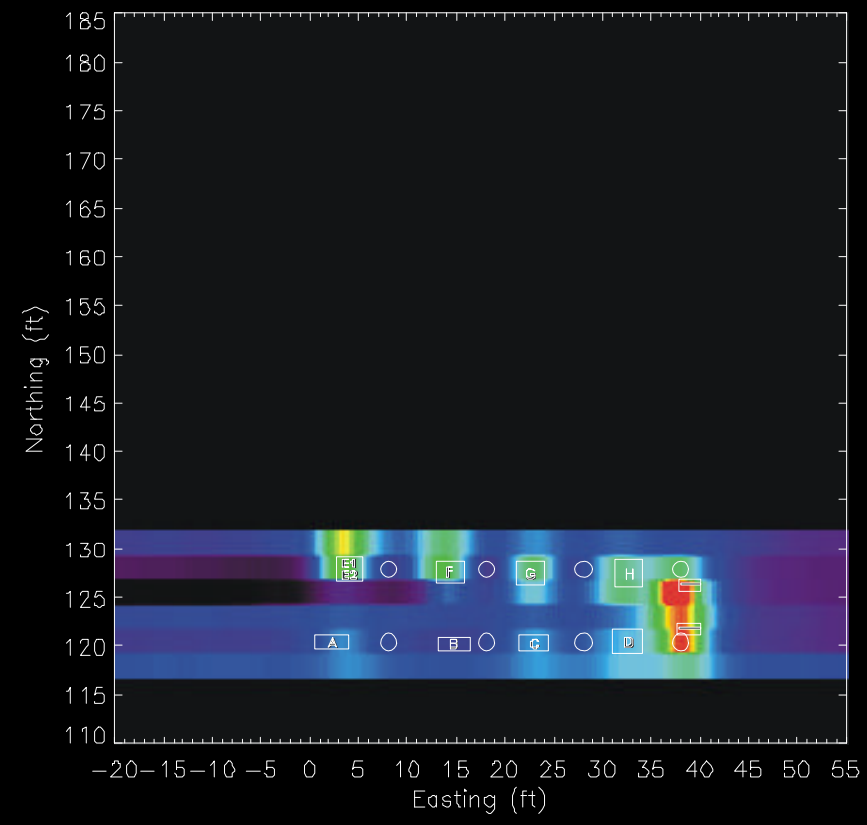
COLD TEST PIT CALIBRATION CELL

VETEM DATA: F:\NEEL\GTP\CalCell\0n\Calcell.Dn.ass Time = 3000 (ns)



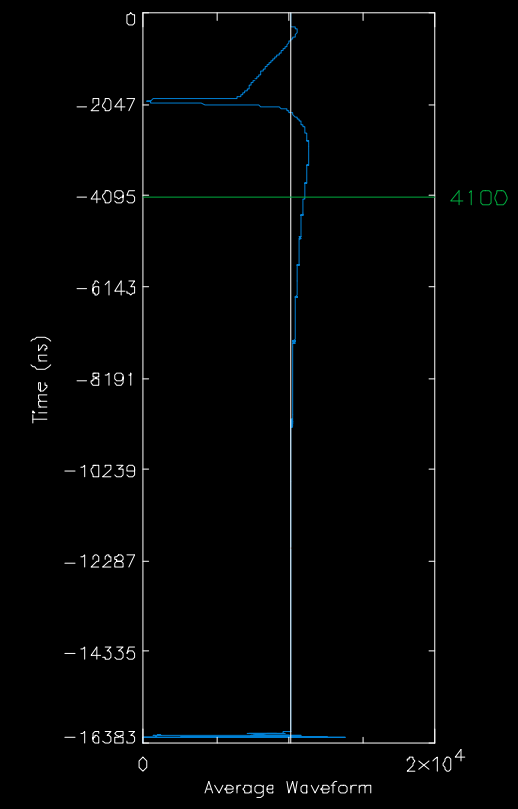
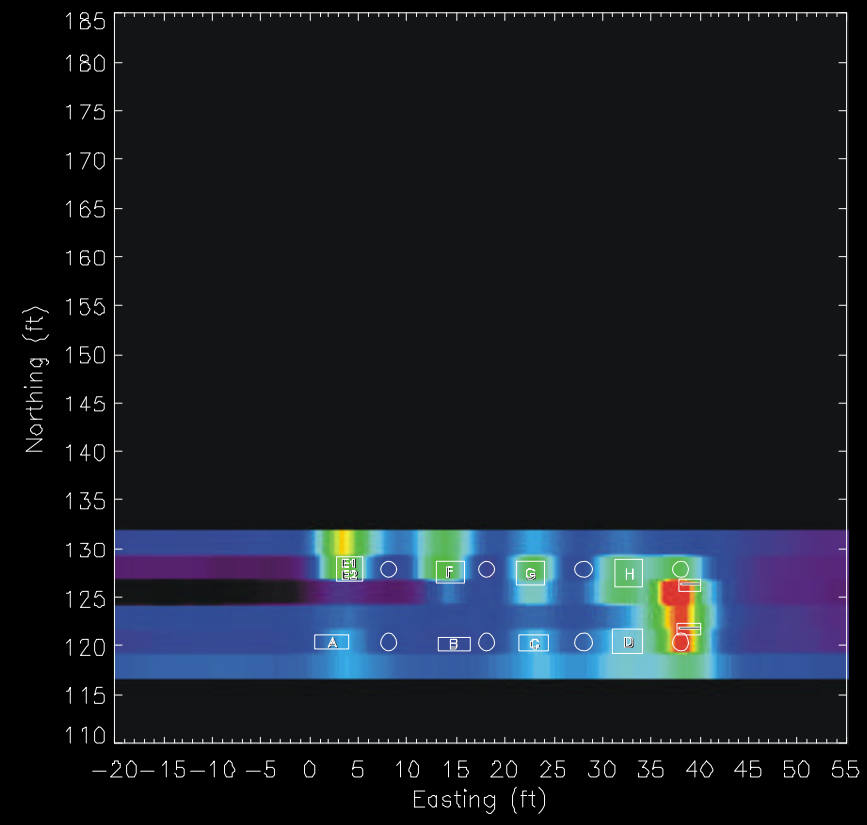
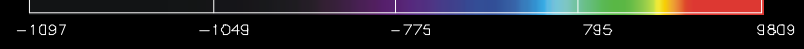
COLD TEST PIT CALIBRATION CELL

VETEM DATA: F:\NHEEL\GTP\CalCell\0n\Calcell.Dn.ass Time = 3700 (ns)



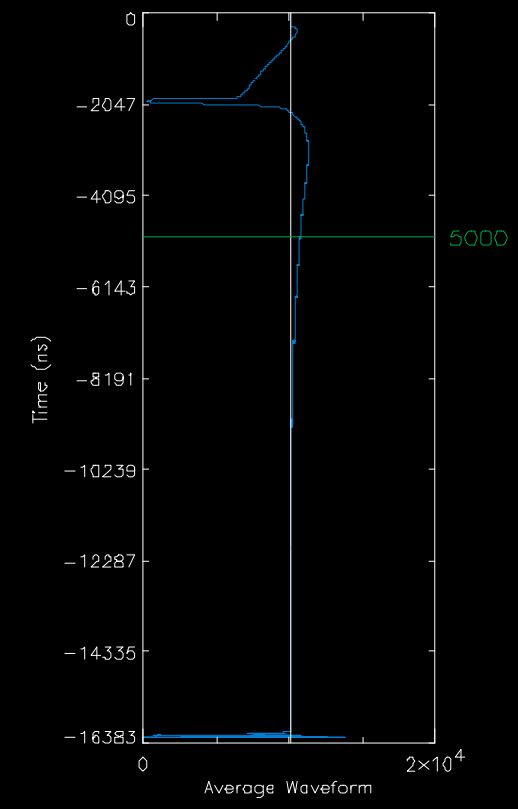
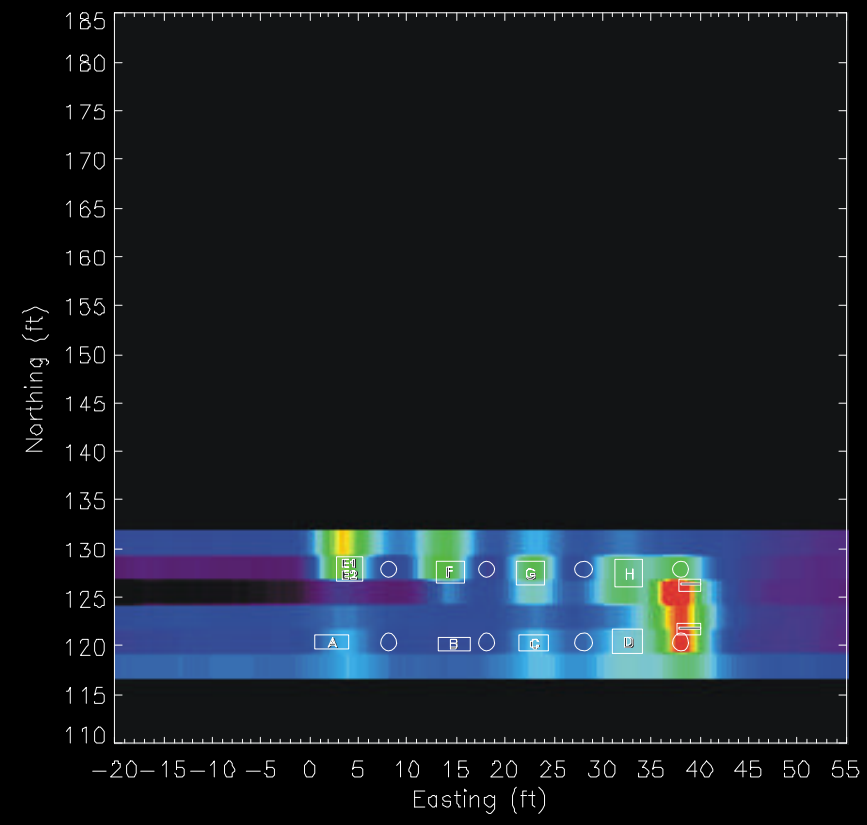
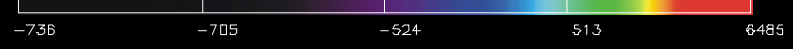
COLD TEST PIT CALIBRATION CELL

VETEM DATA: F:\NEEL\GTP\CalCell\0n\Calcell.Dn.ass Time = 4100 (ns)



COLD TEST PIT CALIBRATION CELL

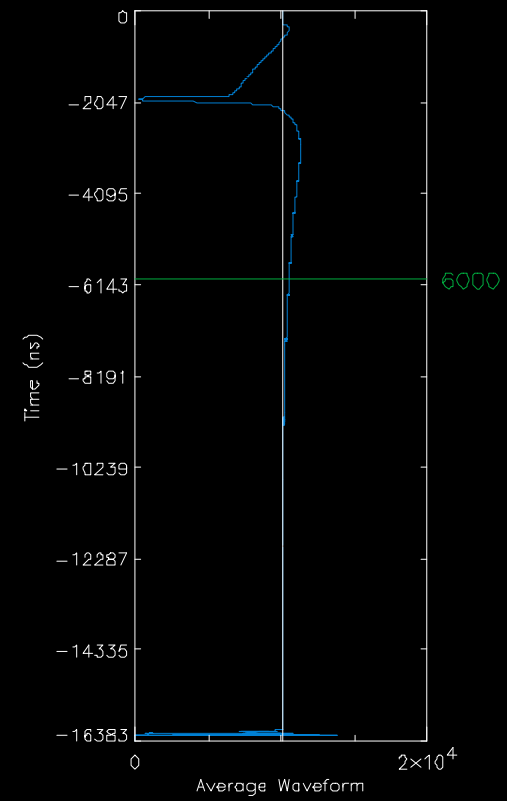
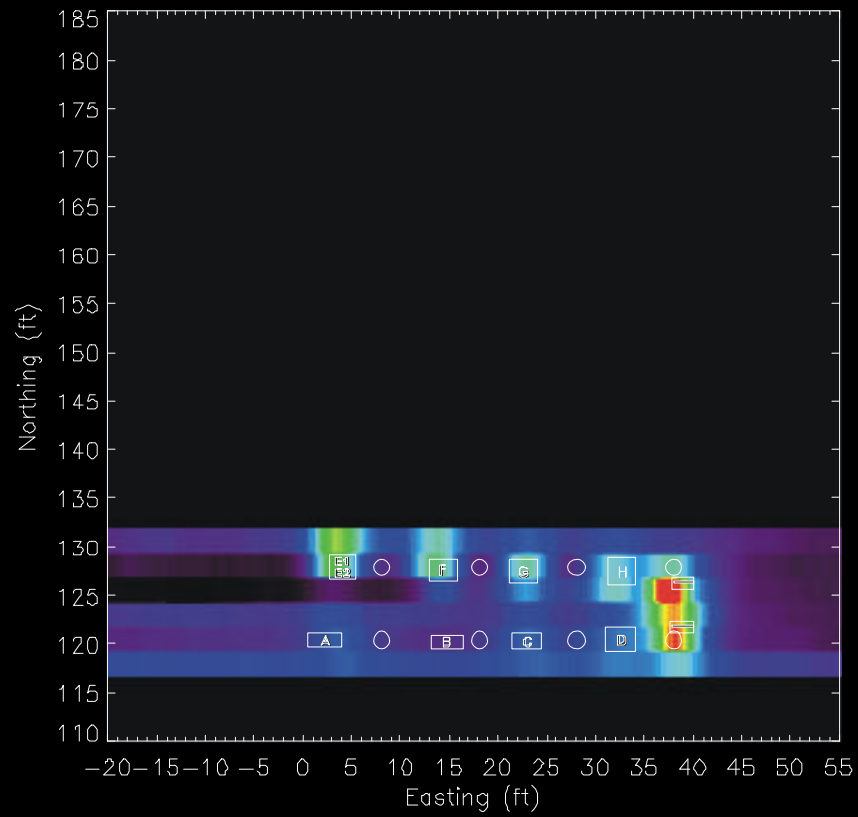
VETEM DATA: F:\NEEL\GTP\CalCell\0n\Calcell.Dn.ass Time = 5000 (ns)



# COLD TEST PIT CALIBRATION CELL

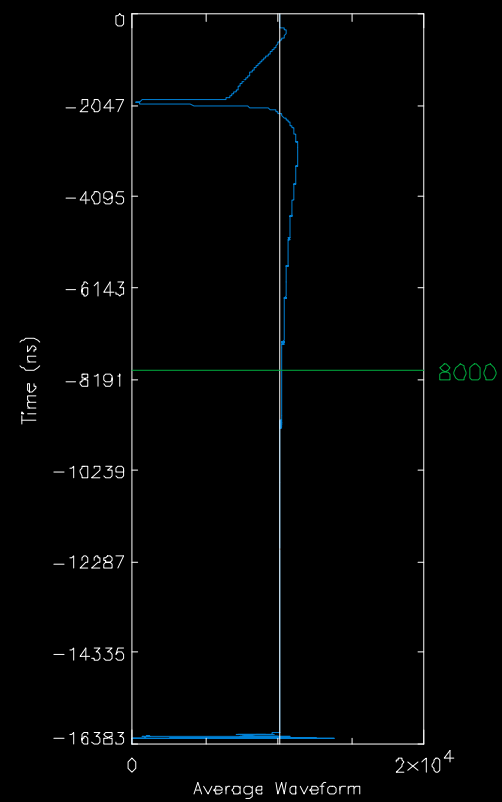
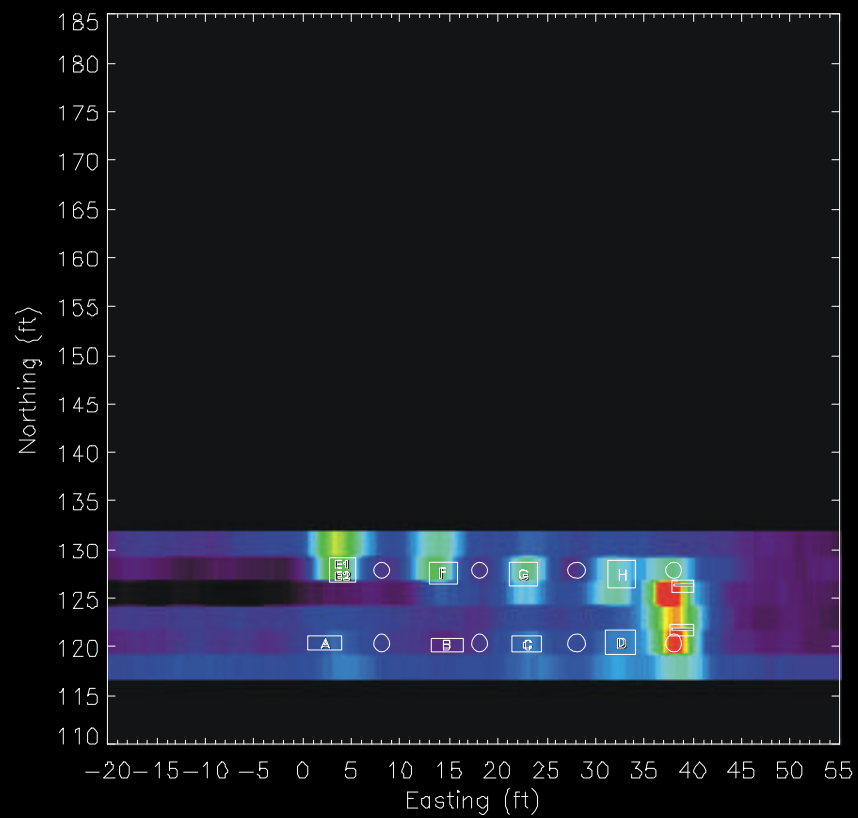
VETEM DATA: F:\NHEEL\GTP\CalCell\0n\Calcell.Dn.ass Time = 6000 (ns)

-464 -420 -231 571 3993



# COLD TEST PIT CALIBRATION CELL

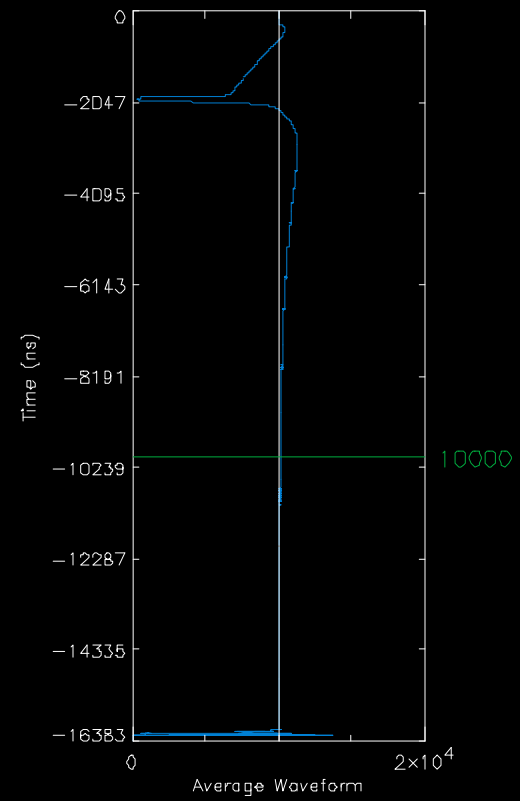
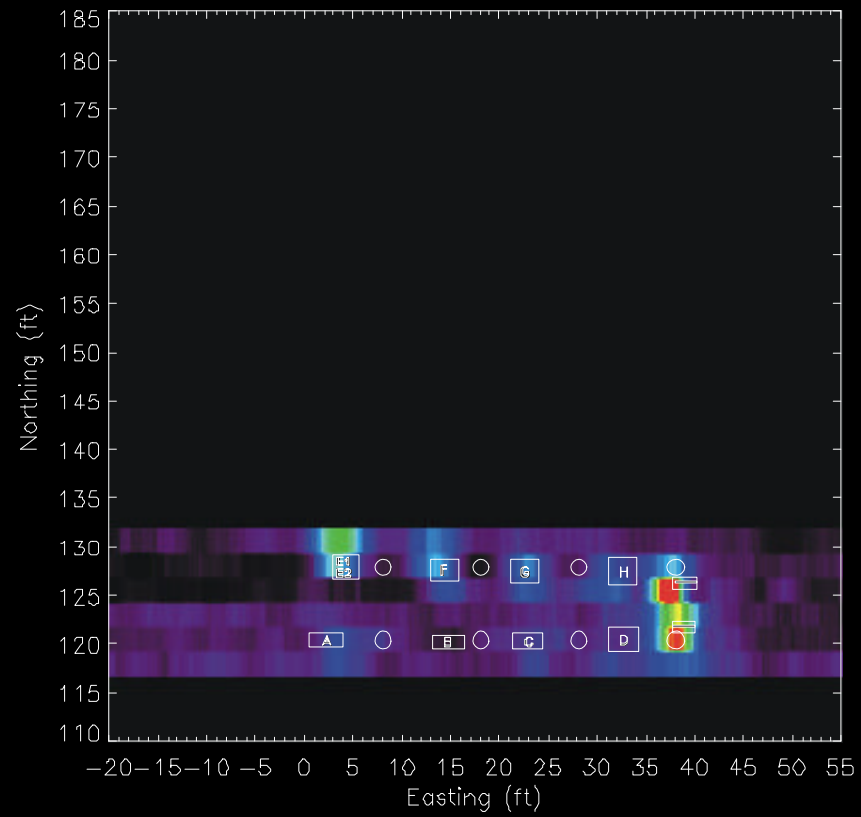
VETEM DATA: F:\NEEL\GTP\CalCell\0n\Calcell.Dn.ass Time = 8000 (ns)





# COLD TEST PIT CALIBRATION CELL

VETEM DATA: F:\NEEL\CTP\CalCell\On\CalCell\_On.ass Time = 10000 {ns}



# *Large Object Pit Results & Calibration Cell Results*

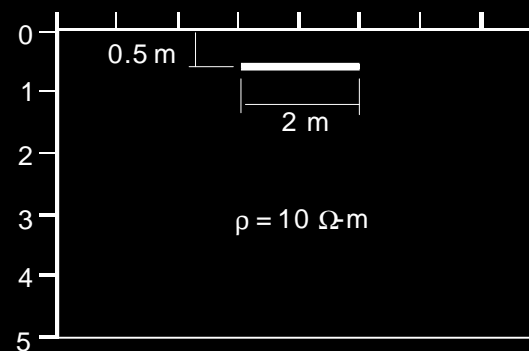
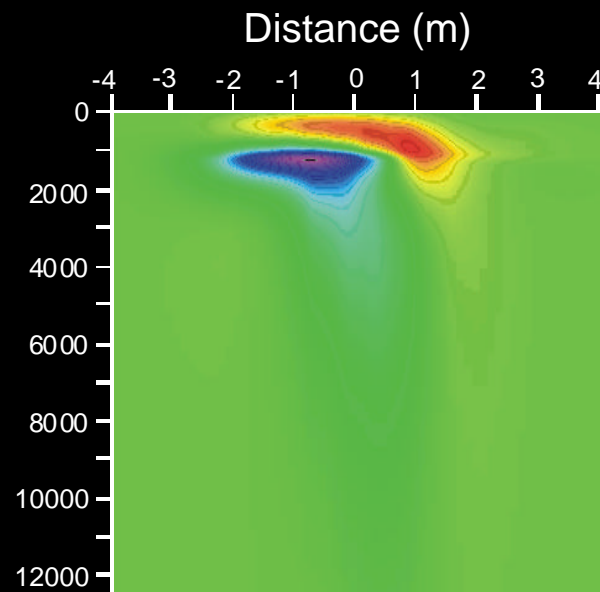
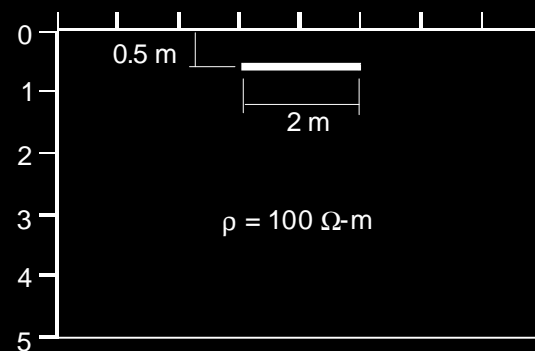
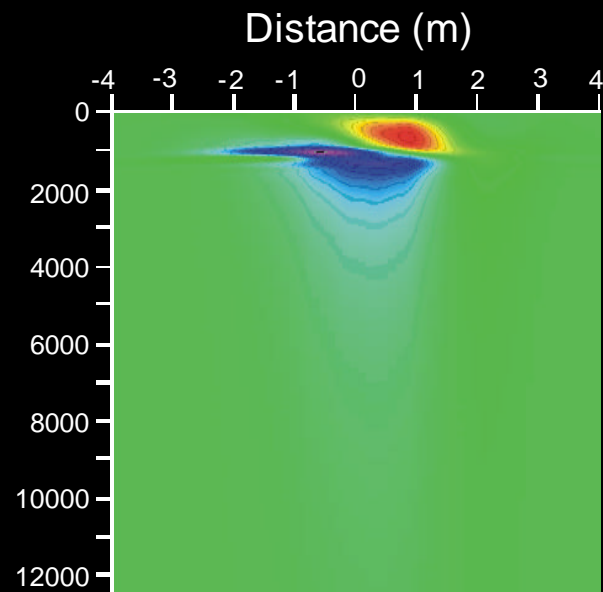
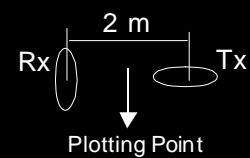
- Used both perpendicular and overlapped antennas in Large Object Pit.
- Generally good results in LOP. Some targets not seen and some uncertainty with respect to positions.
- Only overlapped antennas used in CC.
- Got returns from all targets in CC except “B” -- Salt water filled plastic drum.

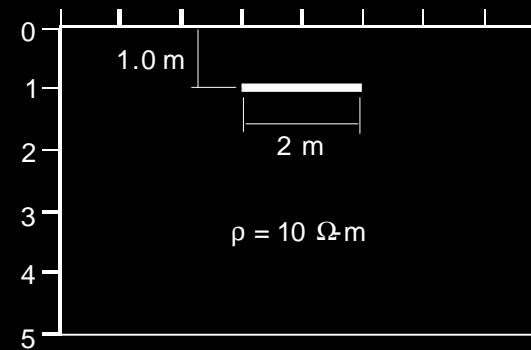
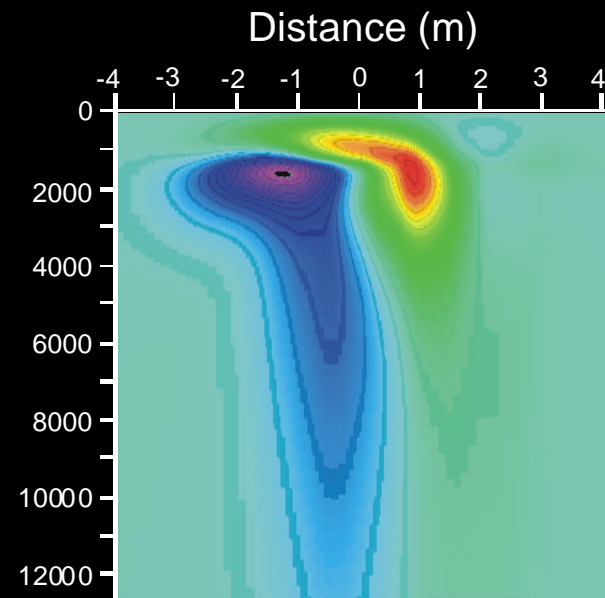
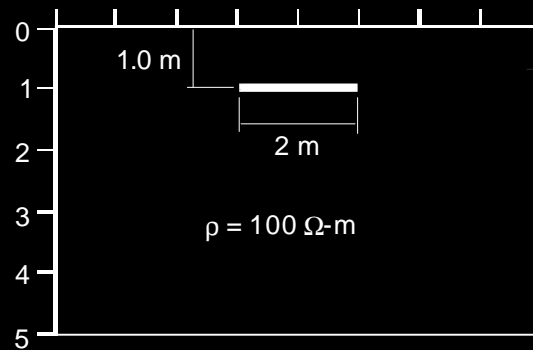
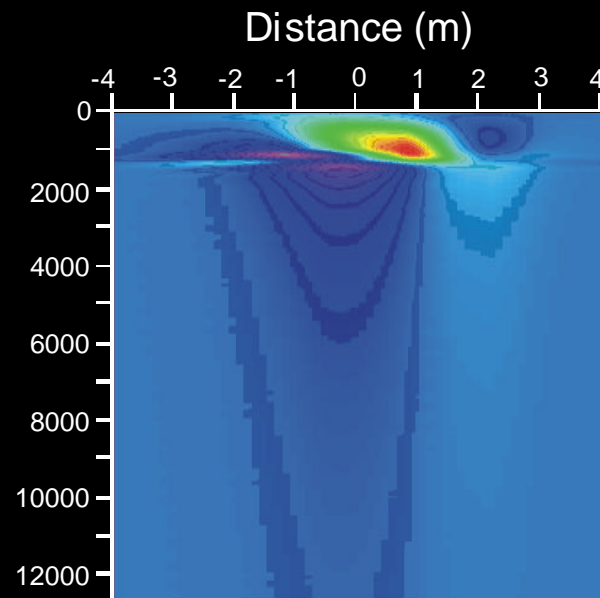
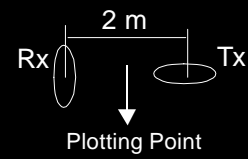
# *Modeling Status*

- 3-D scattering formulation forward model available:
  - One version calculates E field, another H field
  - Have run this model for several sets of parameters to study apparent target location question for perpendicular antennas
- 1-D and 2-D inverse models being developed.

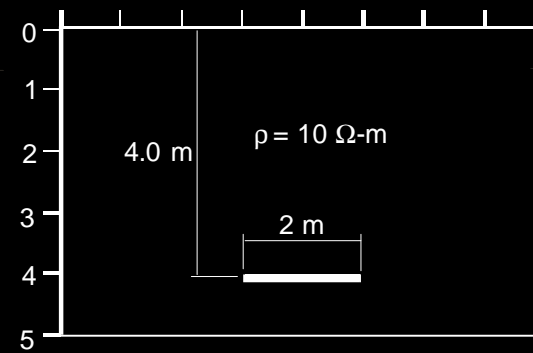
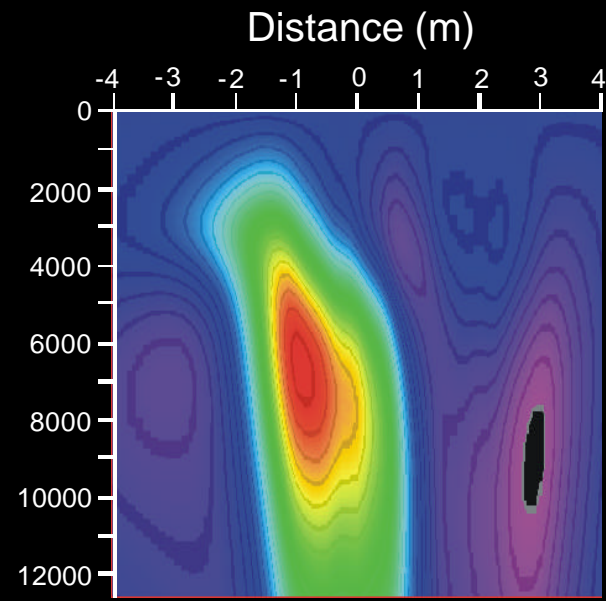
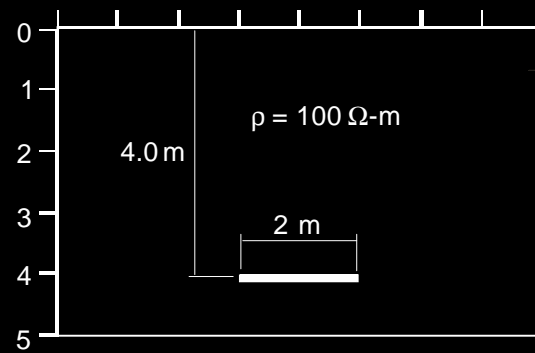
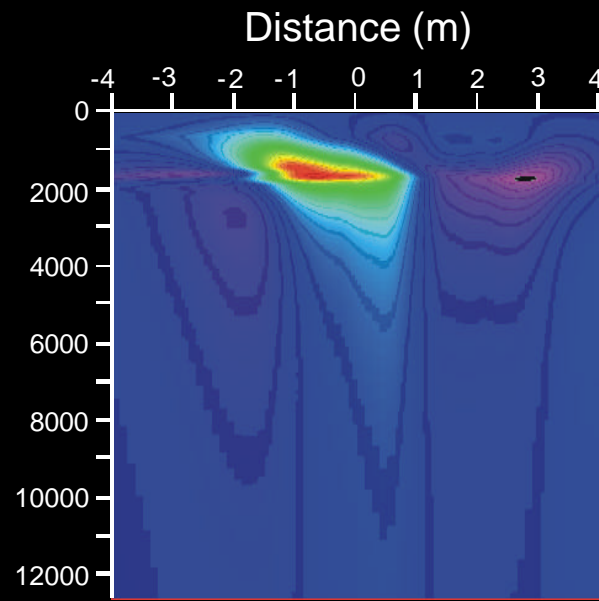
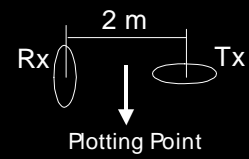
# *Comments on Following Simulated Profiles*

- In the following 4 slides we show simulated residual (due only to scattering from buried target) profiles calculated by U. of Illinois fast 3-D forward model algorithm.
- Half-space of 100 ohm-m (left) and 10 ohm-m (right) conductivity.
- Target is 2 m by 2 m buried metal plate at depths of 0.5, 1, 2, and 4 meters.
- Assumed antennas are perpendicular at 2-m spacing.
- Tx normalized waveform assumed to turn off at 1000 ns.
- Note that apparent target location shifts slightly with time and conductivity.
- We are calculating models for other antenna configurations and polarizations.











## *What's next for VETEM?*

- New receiver -- higher dynamic range
  - Linear/Log switched gain & switched bandpass
- Electric field antennas
- ATV-towed version
- Gradiometer configuration
- Data processing -- parameter extraction
- Modeling -- overlapped antennas, gradiometer, and inverse algorithms

# *Conclusions*

- Results over Cold Test Pit have shown:
- Instrument prototype working well -- but
- Need *more more more dynamic range!*
- Apparent target location questions
  - forward modeling helps
- Forward modeling code now fast enough to perform realistic simulated profiling

# *Acknowledgements*

- We acknowledge the support of the U.S. Department of Energy Environmental Management Science Program (EMSP) and support from the Idaho National Environmental and Engineering Laboratory (INEEL) who made this work possible.

